

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Categorical Exclusion
DOI-BLM-CO-SO50-2014-0033 CX**

July 2014

Kelly Cabin Generator Installation

*Location: Northwest San Miguel County
San Miguel Special Recreation Management Area*

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Uncompahgre Field Office
2465 South Townsend Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401
Phone: (970) 240-5300**



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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2014-0033 CX

PROJECT NAME: Kelly Cabin Generator Installation

PLANNING UNIT: San Juan/San Miguel Resource Management Unit

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T.45N, R12W, Sec 28 and 29

APPLICANT: Bureau of Land Management, Uncompahgre Field Office

BACKGROUND: The Kelly Cabin is a seasonal site operated by the BLM. San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) is the electric utility, and provides electrical service for the cabin. During a wildfire in the vicinity in summer of 2010, a section of the electric power line feeding the site was destroyed. In reviewing the future of the site, SMPA proposed providing an electrical generator in lieu of rebuilding the power line. In total, nearly two (2) miles of power line could be removed.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: A 30 kW, liquid cooled, LP fueled generator would be installed to provide power to the cabin. The generator would be sited at the existing power pole, and connect into the existing service wires feeding to the cabin. A concrete pad sufficient to support the weight of the generator would be designed and poured or placed at the site. Estimated size of the generator (including a sound-dampening enclosure) is roughly 5' long, 3' wide and 4' tall (exact dimensions dependent on model/manufacturer selected). Control equipment would be integral with the generator unit, although a start/stop button would be installed in the cabin to allow power to be turned on by the user. The start/stop button would require a small conduit for control wiring to be installed underground (shallow trench) between the cabin and the generator, following the previously trenched route for the service conductors. A 1000 gallon LP tank would be located adjacent to the generator. This size tank would ensure adequate fuel for projected needs, and generally provide enough capacity to allow refueling during appropriate seasons to prevent road or resource impacts during inclement weather.

SMPA would remove the existing overhead power facilities from BLM property as directed by the BLM. Wire would be dropped and pulled out along the existing right-of way unless a more suitable route is preferred. Poles would be cut off at ground level (to eliminate soil disturbance) and winched out to minimize utility vehicle travelling the rights-of-way. As directed by BLM, poles may be left in place to facilitate telephone or other service to the site.

All removed facilities would be the responsibility of SMPA, and SMPA would modify their BLM right-of-way permit to address the changes of the removed line.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: San Juan/San Miguel Resource Management Plan

Date Approved: September 1985

Decision Language: Even though the proposal is not specifically provided for in the RMP, it is not restricted by any RMP decisions. Because the BLM Norwood Cabin is an administrative site, the operation of this facility is not associated with specific land use plan decisions, objectives or resource management actions.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 2 Appendix 1, Number 1.7 which allows for “routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short term effects)”.

The proposed action also qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, Number E.17 which allows “Grant of a short rights-of-way for utility service or terminal access roads to an individual residence, outbuilding, or water well.”

None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Exclusion	YES	NO
1. Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety.	___	<u>X</u>
2. Have adverse effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands, floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	___	<u>X</u>
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.	___	<u>X</u>
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	___	<u>X</u>
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.	___	<u>X</u>
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	___	<u>X</u>

- 7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. ___ X
- 8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species. ___ X
- 9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. ___ X
- 10. Have disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. ___ X
- 11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. ___ X
- 12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species. ___ X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Area of Responsibility</u>
Julie Jackson	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation, VRM
Bruce Krickbaum	NEPA Coordinator	NEPA
Teresa Pfifer	Lands and Minerals Supervisor	Realty
Linda Reed	Realty Specialist	Realty
Melissa Siders	Wildlife Biologist	TES Species, Migratory Birds, Wildlife
Edd Franz	Outdoor Recreation Planner	WSR
Glade Hadden	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The entire project is situated in previously disturbed surface, and is exempt from Cultural Resource inventory under the provisions of 8110.23B2 and 8110.23B3. No further work is required.

Native American Religious Concerns: There are none known or anticipated for this project.

Threatened and Endangered Species: There are no federally listed species within the project area. There may be impacts to some BLM sensitive, or migratory bird species, but due to the size and scope of the project, the level of impact is likely negligible and/or undetectable.

NAME OF PREPARER: Julie Jackson, Outdoor Recreation Planner

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Bruce Krickbaum

DATE: 7-8-2014

COMPLIANCE WITH NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, Number 1.7, and 516 DM 11.9, E.17. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 Appendix 2 apply.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Barbara Sharrow
Barbara Sharrow,
Field Manager, Uncompahgre Field Office

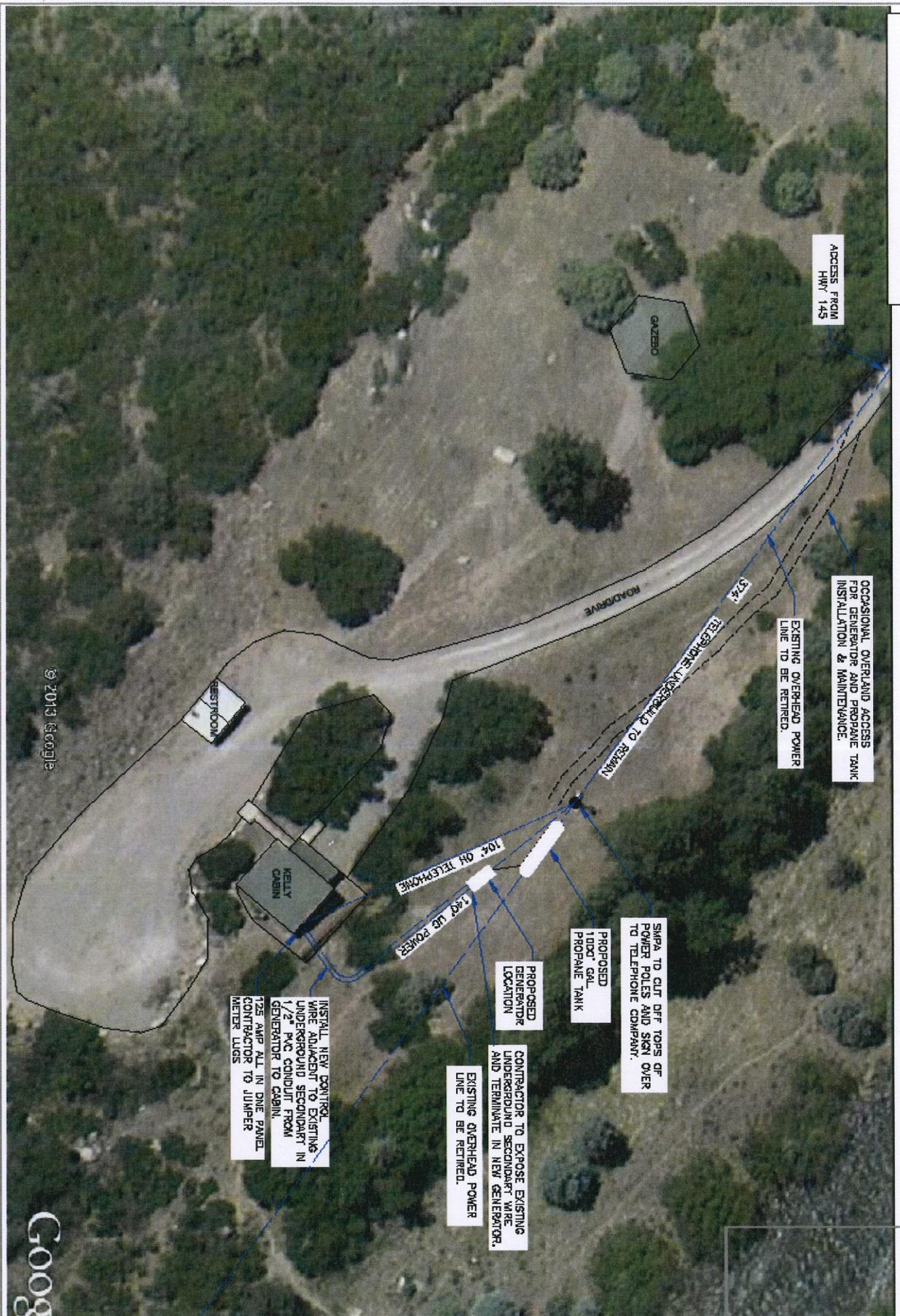
DATE SIGNED: 7-11-14

Attachments: Stipulations
Engineered Site Design

STIPULATIONS

1. All work shall be in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local laws, regulations and ordinances for public health and safety, environmental protection and siting, construction, operation and maintenance. The project would occur by San Miguel Power Association.
2. All materials used, replaced and associated with these projects, their handling, storage and transport shall adhere to environmental laws and regulations and safe work practices. Any excess and/or unsuitable materials will be properly and safely disposed of as directed by the authorized officer.
3. At the completion of these projects, all temporarily disturbed areas, facilities and structures, shall be restored to their original condition, function and operation.
4. Work shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated regarding toxic substances or hazardous materials. In any event, proposed work shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2601, et seq.) with regard to any toxic substances that are used, generated by or stored on the BLM. Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) in excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR, Part 117 shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any federal agency of state government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the authorized officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved Federal agency of State government.
5. The authorized officer may suspend or terminate in whole, or in part, any construction or maintenance activities, when in his judgment, unforeseen conditions arise which result in the approved terms and conditions being inadequate to protect the public health and safety or to protect the environment.
6. Construction, operation and maintenance shall be within the authorized limits of the BLM.
7. No construction or routine maintenance activities shall be performed during periods when the soil is too wet to adequately support such equipment. Emergency repairs to restore access are exempt; however, any damages to resources caused by emergency repairs during wet conditions will be repaired as directed by the authorized officer as soon as possible after the occurrence.
8. The minimum amount of area shall be disturbed for construction, maintenance and operation activities. All activities shall be designed to maintain access, provide for adequate drainage and minimize erosion.
9. Disturbed areas will be evaluated by BLM and will be seeded if determined necessary. If seeding is needed, BLM will apply seed with an appropriate mix adapted for the site.
10. To protect wintering big game and crucial habitats, no surface disturbing activities shall occur from December 1 through April 15. Exceptions or variances to this restriction will be considered and evaluated according to UFO policies.

Engineered Site Design



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Drawn	YAK
Checked	YAK
Approved	YAK
Scale	AS SHOWN
Date	10-18-2010
Project No.	2010A-1201
Revision	
Sheet No.	



Engineering Company
 2010 Main Street
 Fort Collins, Colorado 80526
 Phone: 970.225.1234
 Fax: 970.225.1235

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
KELLY CABIN
GENERATOR INSTALLATION

No.	Revisions	Date	By
A	ISSUE FOR BLM REVIEW	10-12-10	NEW

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2465 South Townsend Avenue
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Decision Record

(DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2014-0033 CX)

PROJECT NAME: Kelly Cabin Generator Installation

DECISION: It is my decision to allow San Miguel Power Association (SMPA) to install a 30 kW, liquid cooled, LP fueled generator to provide power to the cabin. The generator will be sited at the existing power pole, and connect into the existing service wires feeding to the cabin. A concrete pad sufficient to support the weight of the generator will be designed and poured or placed at the site. Estimated size of the generator (including a sound-dampening enclosure) is roughly 5' long, 3' wide and 4' tall (exact dimensions dependent on model/manufacturer selected). Control equipment will be integral with the generator unit, although a start/stop button will be installed in the cabin to allow power to be turned on by the user. The start/stop button will require a small conduit for control wiring to be installed underground (shallow trench) between the cabin and the generator, following the previously trenched route for the service conductors. A 1000 gallon LP tank will be located adjacent to the generator.

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All removed facilities will be the responsibility of SMPA, and SMPA will modify their BLM right-of-way permit to address the changes of the removed line.

MITIGATION MEASURES: Stipulations shown on the CX will be followed and will serve as mitigation.

RATIONALE:

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E.17 and 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, Number 1.7. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect

the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

COMPLIANCE WITH MAJOR LAWS and CONFORMANCE WITH LAND USE PLAN:

The decision is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policy, including the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the San Juan/San Miguel RMP.

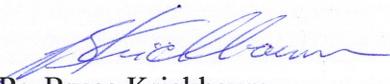
PUBLIC COMMENT:

The BLM informed the public about this project by listing it on the online Uncompahgre NEPA Register and a copy of the completed Categorical Exclusion will be posted on the NEPA website.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:

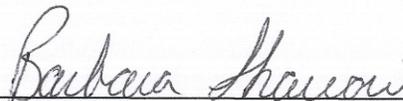
If you are adversely affected by this decision, within 30 days of receipt of this decision you have the right of appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at 43 CFR §4.400.

NAME OF PREPARER: Julie Jackson

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:  Bruce Krickbaum

DATE 7-8-2014

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL



Barbara Sharrow
Field Manager
Uncompahgre Field Office

DATE SIGNED 7-11-14