

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Project Name/ Applicant: Rocky Mountain Power (PacifiCorp) Communications Use Lease Amendment  
Project/Case File Number: IDI-3590  
Project Lead: Becky Lazdauskas  
CE Number: ID-I010-2012-0078-CX  
Date of Preparation: August 14, 2012

### PROPOSED ACTION:

On August 10, 2012, PacifiCorp, dba Rocky Mountain Power, requested an amendment to existing communication use lease, IDI-3590. The Communication Site is located on Menan Butte in Madison County. The authorization effects approximately 2.02 acres of public land in lot 13 of section 2 and lots 13 and 14 of section 3, T. 5 N., R. 38 E., B.M., Idaho.

The original ROW was issued September 8, 1971, and has been renewed several times. The current expiration date is September 7, 2016. The current lease, which was amended on November 13, 2009 and October 19, 2011, authorizes a fenced microwave site (50'x70'), an equipment building (18'x18'), an equipment building (12'x24') with an ice bridge connecting to a 20' steel tower, a 30' foot tower, two propane tanks (with concrete pads), an access driveway (10'x10') and a 12.5kV distribution line (3380' in length, 25' wide).

In order to improve electricity to their site, Rocky Mountain Power is asking to amend their lease to allow for the construction and maintenance of a 35 foot wooden power service pole and overhead line. The pole would be augured approximately 12 inches into the ground just outside of the fenced site to the west, see Exhibit A. Although the pole would be outside of the fenced site, it would be located within the Menan Butte Communication Site. The Site has been previously disturbed by the communication uses.

### CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION:

A description of the proposed action was posted to the online NEPA register. This is available to members of the public through the USFO webpage. No comments were received and no issues/conflicts have been identified for this project.

### FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION:

The proposed action is categorically excluded as outlined in 516 DM 11.9, Appendix 5.4 E (13) and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 apply. This exclusion states that amendments to existing rights-of-way such as upgrading of existing



## Extraordinary Circumstances Requiring Preparation of an EA or EIS

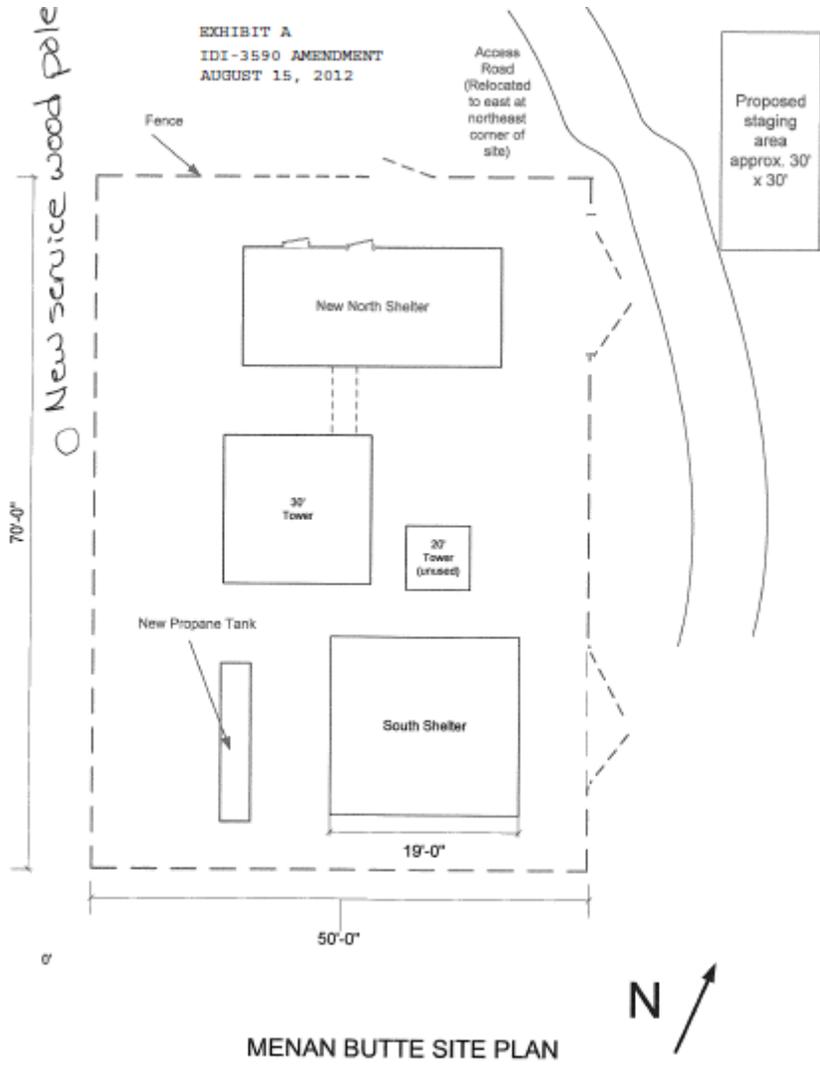
(516 DM 2, Appendix 2)

The action described in categorical exclusion ID-I010-2012-0078-CX (IDI-3590) has been reviewed to determine that none of the extraordinary circumstances listed below pertain to the proposed action.

### DM#    Extraordinary Circumstance

- 2.1    Have significant impacts on public health or safety
- 2.2    Have significant impacts 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 (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.
- 2.3    Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].
- 2.4    Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.
- 2.5    Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.
- 2.6    Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.
- 2.7    Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.
- 2.8    Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species.
- 2.9    Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
- 2.10    Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).
- 2.11    Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).
- 2.12    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 (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

EXHIBIT A  
IDI-3590 AMENDMENT  
AUGUST 15, 2012



MENAN BUTTE SITE PLAN