

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District Office

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Project Lead: Perry Wickham

Field Office: Sierra Front

Lead Office: Sierra Front

Case File/Project Number: NVN 092990

Applicable Categorical Exclusion (cite section): 516 DM 11.5, Appendix 4-(E)(12): "grants of right-of-way wholly within the boundaries of other compatibly developed rights-of-way."

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-C020-2015-0008-CX

Project Name: Avery and Goni Road Right-of-Way

Project Description: Sierra Pacific Power Company doing business as NV Energy proposes to construct a distribution line that would consist of both overhead and underground facilities. The line begins at the intersection of Salk Road and Avery Road in Township 16 North, range 20 East, Section 28, SE ¼ of the SW ¼ and Section 33, NW ¼. The line would be placed underground from that point and head west within the existing right-of-way of Avery Road to the intersection of Avery Road and Goni Road. At that point, the line be placed overhead and head northwesterly along the existing right-of-way for Goni Road until it reaches a point near the existing 120kV transmission line. The line would then dip underground and head west into the Cinderlite Pit. Construction would begin shortly after right-of-way is issued and would provide electric service to the Cinderlite Pit Service Project.

Does the project include new surface disturbing activities? Yes No

Is the project located within preliminary general habitat for sage-grouse? Yes No

Is the project located within preliminary priority habitat for sage-grouse? Yes No

Is the project located within proposed critical habitat for bi-state sage-grouse? Yes No

Is the project located within critical habitat for Webber's Ivesia? Yes No

Applicant Name: Sierra Pacific Power Company doing business as NV Energy

Project Location (include Township/Range, County): Township 16 North, range 20 East, Section 33, NW ¼ and Section 28, SE ¼ of the SW ¼, Lyon County.

BLM Acres for the Project Area: 0.61 Acres

Land Use Plan Conformance (cite reference/page number): LND – 7, "Administrative Actions," #6: "exchanges and minor non-Bureau initiated realty proposals will be considered where analysis indicates they are beneficial to the public."

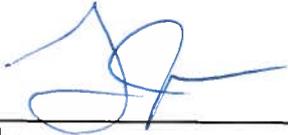
Name of Plan: NV – Carson City RMP.

Screening of Extraordinary Circumstances: The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (43 CFR 46.215). The BLM has considered the following criteria:

<i>If any question is answered 'yes' an EA or EIS must be prepared.</i>	YES	NO
1. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on public health or safety?		X
2. Would the Proposed Action 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 (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (EO 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		X
3. Would the Proposed Action have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA 102(2)(E)]?		X
4. Would the Proposed Action have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X
5. Would the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X
6. Would the Proposed Action have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?		X
7. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the NRHP as determined by the bureau or office?		X
8. Would the Proposed Action 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?		X
9. Would the Proposed Action violate federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X
10. Would the Proposed Action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EA 12898)?		X
11. Would the Proposed Action 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 (EO 13007)?		X
12. Would the Proposed Action contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native 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 EO 13112)?		X

CONCLUSION: Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS.

Approved by:



Leon Thomas
Field Manager
Sierra Front Field Office

10-24-14
(date)

Does this CX constitute the decision document for this Proposed Action? Yes No (see grant).