



BLM - Elko, NV
Categorical Exclusion
C X

Select Field Office
 District - 00
 Tuscarora- 20
 Wells - 30

Title of Proposed Action: Renewal of NVN-034115, NV Energy's-Elko Second Source Transmission Line													
Lead Preparer: Marissa Murphy	NEPA ID No: BLM-NV- E020- 2015-0028 - CX												
Type of Action (Subject Code): Lands/Realty 1430	Case File No.: NVN-034115												
Applicant (if any): Sierra Pacific Power Co.	Proposal Date: 8/31/2014												
Location: Elko County, Nevada off Highway 226, down Highway 225 to Elko, Nevada													
Legal Description: MDM Please see attached serial register page. Township, Range, Section(s) (If more than one TRS, show on attachment)													
<p>A. Proposed Action</p> <p>NV Energy is proposing to renew an existing a right-of-way for a 120 kV overhead transmission line, substation, access road, and three 24.9kV overhead distribution lines. The right-of-way brings electricity to the city of Elko from the Humboldt Substation (under a different ROW Grant) via the Eight-mile and Adobe Substations. The Right-of-Way varies in size. The 120kV transmission line is approximately 70,734.12 feet in length by 75 feet wide from the Humboldt substation to the Adobe Substation. Near the Humboldt substation (northern end) there is a 24.9kV distribution line within the 75 foot ROW that is approximately 5,322.8 feet long. The Eight-mile Substation is primarily on private land; however there is a small area that encompasses approximately .94 acres of public land. From the Adobe Substation (private, southern end) a 24.9 kV distribution line takes off to the east and feeds residences in Elko; it is approximately 25 feet in width and 4,457 feet in length. Another distribution line takes off to the south from the Adobe Substation and is approximately 142.8 feet in length and 25 feet wide. The access road to the Adobe Substation is 50 feet wide and 997.1 feet in length. There will be no new disturbance and the proponent is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the original Grant. The entire ROW contains approximately 126.509 acres of public land.</p> <p>Please see attached map and information for more details.</p>													
<p>B. Land Use Plan Conformance</p> <p>This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the selected applicable resource management plan(s) (RMP) and/or amendment(s) (43 CFR 1610.5: BLM Manual Section 1617.3):</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DISTRICT</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>TUSCARORA Field Office</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>WELLS Field Office</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Elko and Wells RMPs Fire Management Amendment (Approved 9/29/2004)</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elko RMP (Approved 3/11/1987)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Wells RMP (Approved 7/16/1985)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Elko RMP Wild Horse Amendment (Approved 10/15/2003)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Wells RMP Wild Horse Amendment (Approved 2/2/1993)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Wells RMP Elk Amendment (Approved 2/14/1993)</td> </tr> </table>		<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>TUSCARORA Field Office</u>	<u>WELLS Field Office</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Elko and Wells RMPs Fire Management Amendment (Approved 9/29/2004)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elko RMP (Approved 3/11/1987)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wells RMP (Approved 7/16/1985)		<input type="checkbox"/> Elko RMP Wild Horse Amendment (Approved 10/15/2003)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wells RMP Wild Horse Amendment (Approved 2/2/1993)			<input type="checkbox"/> Wells RMP Elk Amendment (Approved 2/14/1993)
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<p>C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)</p> <p>This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion (CX) under the NEPA Manual (516 DM), and has been</p>													

reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances apply. The applicable categorical exclusion is:

1. **BLM Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 516 DM 11.9**
2. **E. Realty**
3. **Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.**

D. Conclusion and Signature

Based upon this review, I have determined that the Proposed Action, as described, is in conformance with the land use plan and meets criteria for the selected CX. There is no potential for significant impacts. Therefore, the action is excluded from farther environmental analysis and documentation.

Managers Name /s/ Richard E. Adams

Title **Tuscarora Field Manager**

Date **5/14/2015**

*Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.

Screening for Extraordinary Circumstances

Each of the following questions must be answered negatively, by all resource specialists participating on the interdisciplinary team before this CX may be approved (516DM).

Resource Concerns		Yes	No
1. Will this project have significant adverse effects on public health or safety?			X
2. Will this project adversely affect such unique geographic characteristics as: (a) historic or cultural resources; (b) park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers; (c) sole or principal drinking water aquifers; (d) prime farmlands, wetlands, flood plains, or (e) ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department of the Interior's National Register of Natural Landmarks?			(a) X (b) X (c) X (d) X (e) X
3. Will this project have highly controversial environmental effects?			X
4. Will this project have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?			X
5. Will this project establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?			X
6. Will this project be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?			X
7. Will this project have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?			X
8. Will this project have adverse effects on species listed or proposed for listing on the Threatened or Endangered Species List, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?			X
9. Will this project require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?			X
10. Will this project threaten to violate a Federal, State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?			X
11. Will this project 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— Sacred Sites)			X
12. Will this project 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?			X
Reviewers and Comments			
Resource	Specialist Name	Comment	Initials
AFM – Non-Renewables	Deb McFarlane	No comment	DNM 8/7/14
AFM – Renewables			
Air/Hydrology/Soils			
Archaeology			
Biologist Fisheries and/or Wildlife	Ken Wilkinson	See attached 5/5/2015 Memorandum	KWilkinson 5/15/2015
Cultural/Native American Concerns			
Grazing/Range Mgmt			
Env. Justice/Health			
Recreation Planner			
Weed Specialist			

NEPA

Terri Dobis

No comment

TKD 5/14/2015