

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Categorical Exclusion Checklist

PG&E Service Wire Over Madera Irrigation District Lateral 24.2-8.9-1.0

CEC 12-098

Prepared by:



Chuck Siek
Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 2/26/13

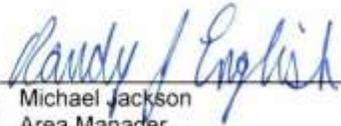
Concurred by:



Lisa Carlson
Wildlife Biologist
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 2/27/2013

Approved by:

for 

Michael Jackson
Area Manager
South-Central California Area Office

Date: 3/7/13



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
South-Central California Area Office

February, 2013

Background

Pacific Gas and Electric has requested permission to install a new single aluminum service wire over and across Reclamation's right-of-way for the Madera Irrigation District's (MID) distribution system, Lateral 24.2-8.9-1.0.

Purpose and Need for Action

There is a need to provide electric service to a new customer across MID lateral 24.2-8.9-10. The purpose of the proposed action is to provide the safest, most economical electrical service to the residence.

Proposed Action

The proposed action would be to issue a new 50-year license for an aerial crossing spanning 65-feet across Reclamation right of way. The single aluminum line would be strung from an existing 40-foot wood pole located within the Avenue 20 right-of-way to a new 35-foot pole on private property. There would be no ground disturbance on Reclamation right of way and construction is expected to take one day. The proposed action is located within the city of Madera, west of the intersection of Avenue 20 and Road 24.

Environmental Commitments

Reclamation shall implement the following environmental protection measures:

Resource	Protection Measure
Biological Resources	All project-related vehicle traffic will be restricted to established roads. Established roads include all pre-existing unimproved and improved roads.

Environmental consequences for resource areas assume the measures specified would be fully implemented.

Exclusion Category

516 DM 14.5 Categorical Exclusions: (D) Operation and Maintenance Activities (10) Issuance of permits, licenses, easements, and crossing agreements which provide right-of-way over Bureau lands where the action does not allow for or lead to a major public or private action.

Evaluation of Criteria for Categorical Exclusion:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. This action would have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1502.3). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. This action would have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR 46.215 (b)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. This action would establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215 (g)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. This action would 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 (43 CFR 46.215 (h)). | No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncertain <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

10. This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)). No Uncertain Yes
11. This action would affect ITAs (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993). No Uncertain Yes
12. This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)). No Uncertain Yes
13. This action would 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, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)). No Uncertain Yes
14. This action would 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, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)). No Uncertain Yes

The Regional Archeologist concurred with Item 8. Their determination has been attached.

The Wildlife Biologist concurred with Item 9. Their determination is in the project folder.

The ITA Designee concurred with Item 11. Their determination has been attached.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION 12-098
PG&E Service Wire Over Madera Irrigation District Lateral
Cultural Resource Impact Determination

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

MP-153

ENV-3.00

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

February 14, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: Charles Siek

Supervisory Natural Resources

South Central California Area Office

Resource Management Division

From: Mark. A. Carper

Archaeologist – Division of Environmental Affairs

Subject: 13-SCAO-084: PG&E Service Wire Over Madera Irrigation District Lateral 24.2-8.9-1.0 (CEC-12-098)

This proposed undertaking by Reclamation is to issue a new 50-year license for an aerial crossing spanning 65-feet across Reclamation right of way. This is the type of undertaking that does not have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, should such properties be present, pursuant to the NHPA Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1). Reclamation has no further obligations under NHPA Section 106, pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.3(a)(1).

The proposed action is Located within the city of Madera, west of the intersection of Avenue 20 and Road 24. The issuance of a license by Reclamation constitutes an undertaking pursuant to NHPA Section 106 regulations codified at 36 CFR § 800.2 (b)(4) . However, the aerial crossing, which consists of a single aluminum line to be strung from an existing 40-foot wood pole located within the Avenue 20 right-of-way to a new 35-foot pole on private property, and would result in no ground disturbing activities within Reclamation right of way has no potential cause effects to historic properties.

After reviewing CEC-12-098, dated February 2013, I concur with item 8 which states that this action would not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places. This memorandum is intended to convey the completion of the NHPA Section 106 process for this undertaking. Please retain a copy in the administrative record for this action. Should changes be made to this project, additional NHPA Section 106 review, possibly including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, may be necessary. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

Mark A. Carper, M.A., Archaeologist

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, MP-153 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825

Phone: 916-978-5552 Email: mcarper@usbr.gov

CC: Cultural Resources Branch (MP-153), Anastasia Leigh – Regional Environmental Officer (MP-150)

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION 12-098
PG&E Service Wire Over Madera Irrigation District Lateral
Indian Trust Asset Impact Determination

2/5/13

I reviewed the proposed action to issue a new 50-year license for an aerial crossing spanning 65-feet across Reclamation right of way. The single aluminum line would be strung from an existing 40-foot wood pole located within the Avenue 20 right-of-way to a new 35-foot pole on private property. There would be no ground disturbance on Reclamation right of way and construction is expected to take one day. The proposed action is located within the city of Madera, west of the intersection of Avenue 20 and Road 24.

The proposed action does not have a potential to affect Indian Trust Assets. The nearest ITA is a Public Domain Allotment approximately 23 miles NW of the project location.

Patricia Rivera
Native American Affairs Program Manager
US Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
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