CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern) proposes to obtain an easement for an existing access road which is located in Carroll County, Arkansas. The easement will serve to facilitate Southwestern's electrical utility vehicles accessing electrical transmission line 3008, near structure 33, in Carroll County, Arkansas.

PROPOSED BY:

Southwestern Power Administration- U.S. Dept. of Energy **DATE:** January 28, 2011

NUMBERS AND TITLES OF THE CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS BEING APPLIED:

10 CFR 1021, Appendix B to Subpart D, Part B1.24– Transfer, lease, disposition or acquisition of interests in uncontaminated permanent or temporary structures, equipment therein, and only land that is necessary for use of the transferred structures and equipment, for residential, commercial, or industrial uses.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS IN 10 CFR 1021.410(B):

(1) The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A & B to Subpart D. For classes of action listed in Appendix A or B, the following conditions are integral elements, i.e., to fit within a class, the proposal must not:

(a.) Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive Orders;

(b.) Require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include such categorically excluded facilities;

(c.) Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or un-permitted releases; or

(d.) Adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B. (4)).

(2) There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and

(3) The proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

DETERMINATION: Based on review of information conveyed to me and/or in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as Southwestern Power Administration's NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I believe that the proposed action fits within the specified class of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and therefore the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review:

Larry R. Harp

Larry R. Harp,
Director, Division of Engineering and Planning
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 2-7-2011

EMS ASPECT IDENTIFICATION:

_X__ Existing Aspect: All aspects related to project were previously identified within SWPA M 450.1

___ New Aspect: