

DIRECTOR'S DECISION

- Case File:** C18-0009
- Proposal:** The Columbia River Gorge Commission has received an application for modifications to an existing aboveground and overhead utility facility including replacing 3 antennas and installing outdoor lights for maintenance work.
- Applicant:** Owen Nason
- Landowner:** Scott Hall
- Location:** The subject parcel is located at 184 Rattlesnake Rd, Centerville, WA, 98613, in South East ¼ of Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 15 East, W.M., Klickitat County Tax Lot Number 02-15-03-0000-08/00. The tax lot is .92 acres in size and part of a larger 71.40-acre parcel (Tax Lot Number 02-15-03-0000-06/00).
- Land Use Designation:** The subject parcel is in the General Management Area and designated Large-Scale Agriculture.

DECISION:

Based upon the following findings of fact, the land use application by Owen Nason for modifications to an existing communications facility with the standards of Section 6 and the purposes of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, P.L. 99-663, the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (Management Plan), and approvable under Commission Rule 350-81, and is hereby **approved**.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL:

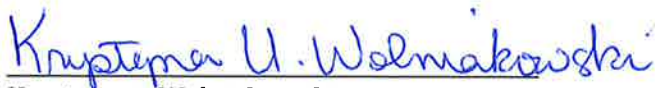
The following conditions of approval are given to ensure that the subject request is consistent with the standards of Section 6 and the purposes of P.L. 99-663, and the Management Plan and approvable under Commission Rule 350-81. Compliance with them is required. **This decision must be recorded in county deeds and records to ensure notice of the conditions to all successors in interest** (Management Plan, Review Uses Guideline 1, pg. II-96).

1. To ensure notice of the conditions to successors in interest, this Director's Decision, Staff Report for C18-0009, and approved site plan shall be recorded in county deeds and records at the Klickitat County Auditor's Office. Once recorded, the applicants shall submit a copy of the recorded document to the Executive Director at the Commission.
2. The development shall be constructed as shown on the approved project description, site plan and elevation drawings. Any changes shall be reviewed and approved by the Executive Director before the changes are implemented.
3. The proposed antennas and elements of the proposal located twenty feet above ground level – antennas, hybrid cable, COVP, AHLOAS, angle iron, and FXFC – are required to be matte "light

grey” and have finishes with low reflectivity. Any changes to the colors must first be submitted to the Executive Director for review and approval before installation

4. All outdoor lighting shall be directed downward and sited, hooded and shielded so that the light is not highly visible from Key Viewing Areas. Shielding and hooding materials shall be composed of non-reflective, opaque materials. Examples of acceptable and unacceptable lighting fixtures are included with this Decision.
5. This decision does not exempt the proposal from other non-Scenic Area rules and regulations. It is applicant’s responsibility for ensuring the use complies with all other applicable federal, state, and county laws; and obtaining necessary approvals, including utility easement approvals.
6. If cultural resources are discovered during construction activities, all activities within 100 feet of the cultural resources shall immediately cease and the applicants shall notify the Gorge Commission within 24 hours of discovery and the State Physical Anthropologist, Dr. Guy Tasa at (360) 586-3534 or guy.tasa@dahp.wa.gov. The cultural resources shall remain as found and further disturbance is prohibited until permission is granted by the Executive Director of the Gorge Commission.
7. If human remains are discovered during construction activities, all activities shall cease immediately upon their discovery. Local law enforcement, the Executive Director and Indian Tribal governments shall be contacted immediately. Further disturbance is prohibited until permission is granted by the Executive Director of the Gorge Commission.
8. The applicant shall notify the Gorge Commission within 30 days of project completion to arrange for an inspection to confirm compliance with conditions of approval. Project completion means completion of all work on exteriors of structures (including painting).

DATED AND SIGNED THIS 8 day of October 2018 at White Salmon, Washington.



Krystyna U. Wolniakowski
Executive Director

EXPIRATION OF APPROVAL:

Commission Rule 350-81-044 governs the expiration of this Director’s Decision.

This decision of the Executive Director becomes void on the 8 day of October 2020 unless construction has commenced in accordance with Commission Rule 350-81-044(4).

Commission Rule 350-81-044(4) specifies that commencement of construction means actual construction of the foundation or frame of the approved structure.

Construction must be completed within two years of the date that the applicant commenced construction. The date of the Executive Director’s preconstruction inspection to confirm the location of proposed structural development as required by this decision shall be considered the date the applicant commenced construction, unless the applicant demonstrates otherwise.

Once the applicant has commenced construction of one element in this decision, the applicant will need to complete all elements in this decision in accordance with Commission Rule 350-81-044. The Commission does not use different "commencement of construction" dates for different elements in this decision.

The applicant may request one 12-month extension of the time period to commence construction and one 12-month extension to complete construction in accordance with Commission Rule 350-81-044(6). The applicant must submit the request in writing prior to the expiration of the approval. If the applicant requests an extension of time to complete construction after commencing construction, the applicants shall specify the date construction commenced. The Executive Director may grant an extension upon determining that conditions, for which the applicants were not responsible, would prevent the applicants from commencing or completing the proposed development within the applicable time limitation. The Executive Director shall not grant an extension if the site characteristics and/or new information indicate that the proposed use may adversely affect the scenic, cultural, natural or recreation resources in the National Scenic Area.

APPEAL PROCESS:

The appeal period ends on the 9th day of November 2018.

The decision of the Executive Director is final unless the applicant or any other person who submitted comment files a Notice of Intent to Appeal and Petition with the Commission within thirty (30) days of the date of this decision. Information on the appeal process is available at the Commission office.

NOTES:

Any new land uses or structural development such as driveways, parking areas, garages, workshops, fences or other accessory structures; or additions or alterations not included in the approved application or site plan will require a new application and review. New cultivation also requires a new application and review.

This decision does not address local, state, or federal requirements that may be applicable to the proposed development. The landowner is responsible for obtaining all applicable county, state, or federal permits required for the development.

cc:

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
Nez Perce Tribe
U.S. Forest Service National Scenic Area Office
Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Klickitat County Planning Department
Klickitat County Building Department
Klickitat County Public Works Department
Klickitat County Health Department
Klickitat County Assessor
Skamania County
Washington Natural Heritage Program
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Friends of the Columbia Gorge

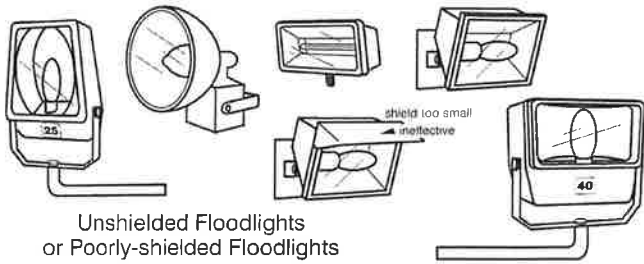
Attachments:

Staff Report for C18-0009
Approved site plan
Example sheet of acceptable & unacceptable light fixtures

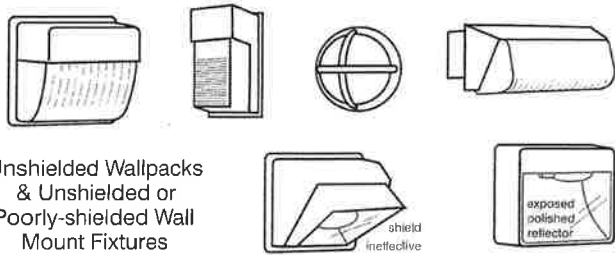
Examples of Acceptable / Unacceptable Lighting Fixtures

Unacceptable / Discouraged

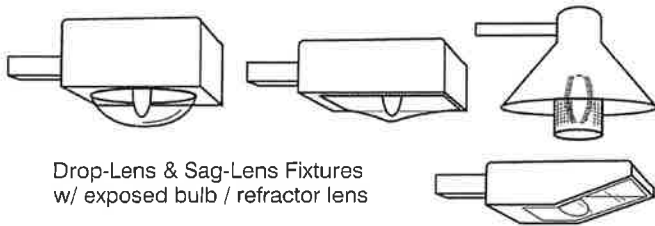
Fixtures that produce glare and light trespass



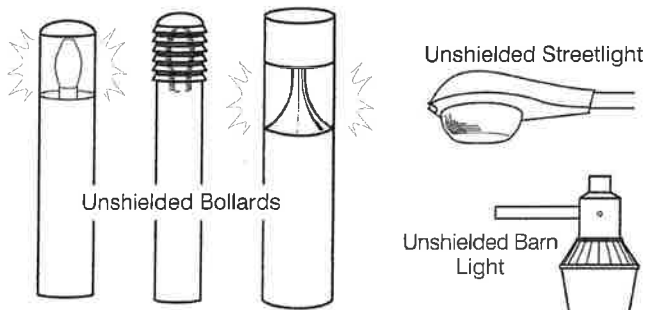
Unshielded Floodlights or Poorly-shielded Floodlights



Unshielded Wallpacks & Unshielded or Poorly-shielded Wall Mount Fixtures



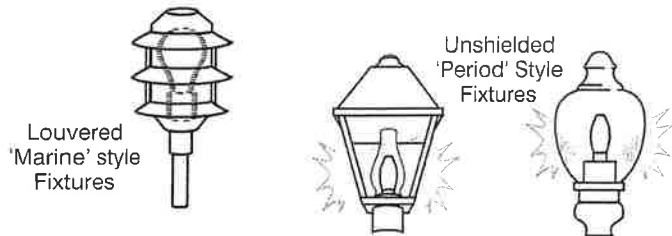
Drop-Lens & Sag-Lens Fixtures w/ exposed bulb / refractor lens



Unshielded Bollards

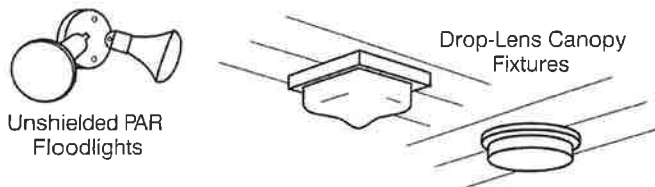
Unshielded Streetlight

Unshielded Barn Light



Louvered 'Marine' style Fixtures

Unshielded 'Period' Style Fixtures

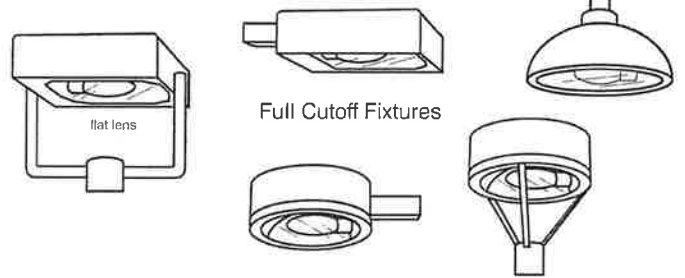


Unshielded PAR Floodlights

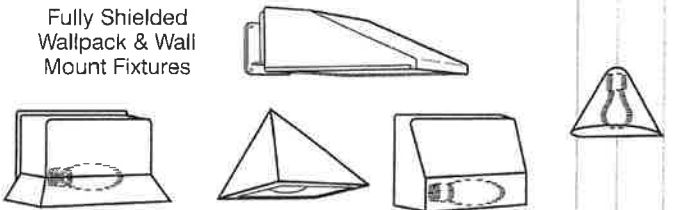
Drop-Lens Canopy Fixtures

Acceptable

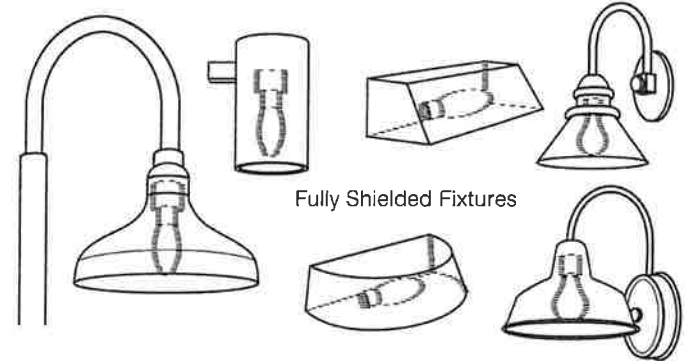
Fixtures that shield the light source to minimize glare and light trespass and to facilitate better vision at night



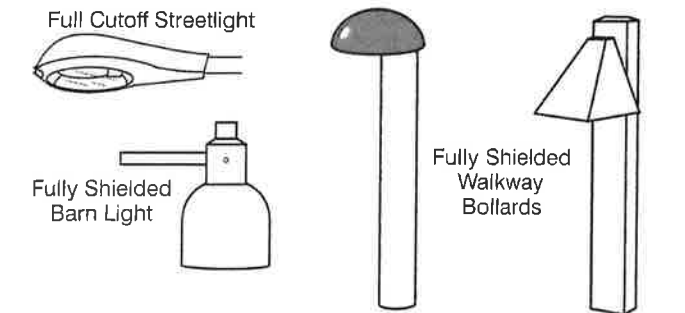
Full Cutoff Fixtures



Fully Shielded Wallpack & Wall Mount Fixtures



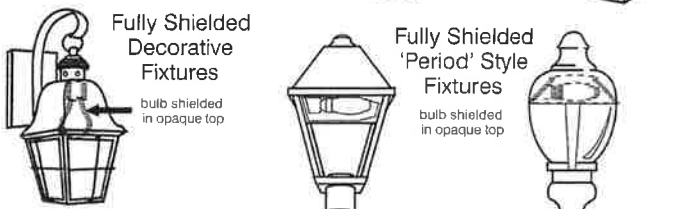
Fully Shielded Fixtures



Full Cutoff Streetlight

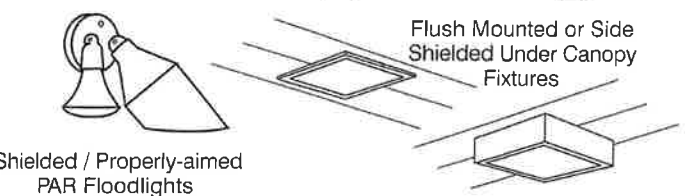
Fully Shielded Barn Light

Fully Shielded Walkway Bollards



Fully Shielded Decorative Fixtures

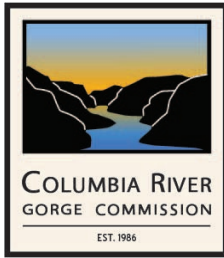
Fully Shielded 'Period' Style Fixtures



Shielded / Properly-aimed PAR Floodlights

Flush Mounted or Side Shielded Under Canopy Fixtures

Illustrations by Bob Crelin© 2005. Rendered for the Town of Southampton, NY. Used with permission.



STAFF REPORT

Case File: C18-0009

Proposal: The Columbia River Gorge Commission has received an application for modifications to an existing aboveground and overhead utility facility including replacing 3 antennas and installing outdoor lights for maintenance work.

Applicant: Owen Nason, representing T-Mobile

Landowner: Scott Hall

Location: The subject parcel is located at 184 Rattlesnake Rd, Centerville, WA, 98613, in South East $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 15 East, W.M., Klickitat County Tax Lot Number 02-15-03-0000-08/00. The tax lot is .92 acres in size and part of a larger 71.40-acre parcel (Tax Lot Number 02-15-03-0000-06/00).

Land Use

Designation: The subject parcel is located in the General Management Area and designated Large-Scale Agriculture.

COMMENTS FROM INDIVIDUALS/AGENCIES/GOVERNMENTS:

Notice of the subject request was mailed to property owners within 200 feet of the subject parcel and the following organizations/agencies/governments:

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
Nez Perce Tribe
U.S. Forest Service National Scenic Area Office
Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Klickitat County Planning Department
Klickitat County Building Department
Klickitat County Public Works Department
Klickitat County Health Department
Klickitat County Assessor
Skamania County
Washington Natural Heritage Program
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Written comments were received from Steven McCoy, Friends of the Columbia River Gorge.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

A. Land Use

1. Owen Nason has applied for modifications to an existing aboveground overhead utility facility including; at the antenna level removing three antennas and installing three new antennas, one hybrid cable, one COVP, three AHLOAS, and one angle iron for cable management; relocating two FXFC from ground level to tower; at the ground level removing one ESMB, one FBBC, one Ultrasite Cabinet and three FRLB, and installing one full ice canopy over existing pad, two AMOB , one ASIA, two ABIA, one ABIL, one ASIK, two FCOA cabinets, installing five rectifiers to SSC, one router and LED lights.
2. The project adds to an existing telecommunication facility on Haystack Butte, northeast of Wishram, WA. The existing facility is located on a .92-acre tax lot, part of a larger 71.40-acre parcel, and designated Large-Scale Agriculture in the GMA.
3. Commission Rule 350-81-182 allows uses listed in the “Expedited Review Process” (Commission Rule 350-81-050) on lands designated Large-Scale Agriculture in the GMA. Commission Rule 350-81-050(1)(r)(C) allows:

New antennas and associated support structures necessary for public service on existing wireless communication poles and towers other than those allowed outright, provided the size is the minimum necessary to provide the service.

The existing facility was built in 1998 (see Director’s Decision C98-0023-K-G-21). Modifications were made to the facility in Director’s Decision’s C16-0004. The antennas proposed for the tower measure 95.9” x 25.2” X 9.3” and are comparable to the dimensions to the antennas they replace which currently measure 107” x 15.4” x 11.6” while providing increased network capacity to meet user demand necessary to provide service. The new antennas are a few inches shorter in height and a few inches wider. Without installing this new antenna model, service provided will suffer resulting in dropped calls, poor/slow service, and an inability of users to access 911 emergency services. The proposed development to modify an existing aboveground and overhead facility and add three new antennas is eligible for expedited review, consistent with Commission Rule 350-81-050(1)(r)(C).

Conclusion:

The proposed development is an allowed expedited review use, subject to compliance with the guidelines in Commission Rule 350-81-052 that protect scenic, cultural, natural and recreation resource treaty rights.

B. Scenic Resources

1. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(B) states:

Except signs, the colors of structures topographically visible from key viewing areas shall be dark earth-tones found at the specific site or the surrounding landscape. The specific colors or list of acceptable colors shall be included as a condition of approval. This guideline shall not apply to additions, which may match the color of existing buildings.

The development site is located on Haystack Butte at an approximate elevation of 2,925 feet. The tower on the site is visible in the middle ground (1 to 3 miles) and background (greater than three miles) from several Key Viewing Areas (KVAs) to the south including SR 14, the Columbia River, and I-84, all of which are located at lower elevations. The site is set back from the bluff, and as viewed from KVAs, the crest of the hillside provides topographic screening for the bottom twenty feet of the tower and communications shelters. The surrounding landscape for this project is the sky. In similar previous Development Reviews, the Commission found light grey earth-tone color antennas are visually subordinate because they blend in to the lighter colored sky. The proposed antennas and elements of the proposal located higher than twenty feet above ground level – antennas, hybrid cable, COVP, AHLOAS, angle iron, and FXFC – are required to be matte grey or matte off-white. As proposed by the applicant, the development request is consistent with Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(B).

2. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(C) states:

Except signs, structures topographically visible from key viewing areas shall use low or non-reflective building materials, including roofing, gutters, vents and chimneys.

A condition of approval is included in the Director's Decision to require a flat, low reflective finish consistent with Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(C).

3. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(D) states:

Outdoor lights shall be directed downward and sited, hooded, and shielded such that they are not highly visible from key viewing areas. Shielding and hooding materials shall be composed of non-reflective, opaque materials.

The applicant requests LED work lights. As proposed, the lights have a switch and will only be turned on when maintenance work needs to be performed. A condition of approval in the Director's Decision ensures all outdoor lighting complies with this guideline and that the LED work lights are directed downward, shielded and hooded. Examples of unacceptable and acceptable lighting fixtures are included with this Director's Decision.

4. Commission Rule Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(B). states:

Structures within one-half mile of a key viewing area and topographically visible from the key viewing area shall be sited, screened and/or designed to achieve the applicable scenic standard (e.g., visual subordination, not visually evident).

The proposed development is located northeast of Wishram, Washington, over a mile north of State Route 14. It is not located within one-half mile of any Key Viewing Area. Given this information, Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(a)(F) is not applicable.

Conclusion:

The proposed development is consistent with the expedited review guidelines for scenic resources in Commission Rule 350-81-052.

C. Cultural Resources

1. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(b) includes cultural resource protection provisions for uses eligible for the expedited review process. It states:

(A) *The expedited development review process shall only be used to review proposed development that does not require a reconnaissance survey, pursuant to 350-81-54(1)(c)(A) or historic survey, pursuant to 350-81-540(1)(c)(B).*

(B) *The GMA guidelines that protect cultural resources and human remains discovered during construction [350-81-540(6) and (7)] shall be applied as conditions of approval for all development approved under the expedited development review process.*

Chris Donnermeyer, Heritage Resources Program Manager for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, provided a cultural resources survey determination for the proposed development on September 9, 2018. Mr. Donnermeyer determined that the proposed development does not require a reconnaissance survey or historic survey pursuant to Commission Rules 350-81-540(1)(c)(A) and (B) because the proposed use (1) would involve the modification, expansion, replacement, or reconstruction of existing buildings and structures, (2) would not disturb the ground, (3) would not alter the exterior architectural appearance of significant buildings and structures that are 50 years old or older, and (4) would not compromise features of the surrounding area that are important in defining the historic or architectural character of significant buildings or structures that are 50 years old or older. With conditions of approval to require the protection of cultural resources and human remains discovered during construction, the proposed development is consistent with the cultural resource protection guidelines in Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(b).

Conclusion:

With conditions to protect unknown cultural resources or human remains discovered during construction, the proposed development is consistent with the cultural resource guidelines for expedited review in Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(B).

D. Natural Resources

1. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(d) lists natural resource protection guidelines for expedited review uses. To qualify for the expedited review process, Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(d)(A)(i) requires new development is located outside buffer zones for wetlands, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes, except for lot line adjustments or development located inside road, utility or railroad rights-of-way or easements that have been previously disturbed and regularly maintained.

There are no wetlands on the site. According to the Gorge Commission's resource inventories, the closest wetlands are located over 3,00 feet away from the project site. Intermittent streams originate below the elevation of the communication site, approximately 2,000 feet from the communication site. Pursuant to Commission Rule 350-81-570(7), intermittent streams have 50-foot buffers. The proposed development is located more than 50 feet from the ordinary high-water mark of any stream, and outside of the buffer zones. The addition would not be located within the vicinity of any wetlands, rivers, ponds, or lakes.

Additionally, the development is located within a fenced area that has been used and maintained as a telecommunications site. As such, the site has been previously disturbed and regularly maintained.

The proposed development is consistent with 350-81-052(1)(d)(A)(i).

2. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(d)(B) contains expedited review guidelines to protect sensitive wildlife and sensitive plants. It requires eligible development to meet one of the following circumstance:

(I) *The development is at least 1,000 feet from known sensitive wildlife areas or sites (excluding sensitive aquatic species, deer winter range, and turkey habitat) and known sensitive plants; or*

(II) *The development does not disturb the ground or is inside road, utility or railroad rights-of-way or easements or other areas that have been previously disturbed and regularly maintained; or*

(III) *For sensitive wildlife, the development is within 1,000 feet of known sensitive wildlife areas or sites (excluding sensitive aquatic species, deer winter range and turkey habitat), but an appropriate federal or state wildlife agency determines (1) the sensitive wildlife area or site is not active or (2) the proposed development would not compromise the integrity of the wildlife area or site or occur during the time of the year when wildlife species are sensitive to disturbance.*

For sensitive plants, the development is within 1,000 feet of known sensitive plants, but the Oregon or Washington Natural Heritage Program or a person with recognized expertise in botany or plant ecology hired by the applicant has determined that the development would be at least 200 feet from the sensitive plants.

According to the Gorge Commission's resource inventories, there are no known sensitive plants or wildlife areas or sites within 1,000 feet. Additionally, the development is located within a fenced area that has been used and maintained as a telecommunications site. As such, the site has been previously disturbed and regularly maintained.

The proposed addition is consistent with the natural resource protection measures in Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(d)(B)(I) and (II).

Conclusion:

As proposed, the development is consistent with the natural resource protection guidelines for expedited review in Commission Rules 350-81-052(1)(d)(B)(I) and (II).

E. Recreation Resources

1. Commission Rule 350-81-052(1)(c)(A) requires new development approved under the expedited review process to not detract from the use and enjoyment of recreation sites on adjacent parcels.

No established recreation sites exist on adjacent properties; therefore, this rule is no applicable.

Conclusion:

The proposed development is consistent with the recreation resource guidelines for expedited review in Commission Rule 350-81-086.

F. Treaty Rights Protection

1. Commission Rule 350-81-052(2) requires developments reviewed using the expedited review process to comply with the following treaty rights protection guidelines.

- (a) Proposed developments shall not affect or modify any treaty or other rights of any Indian tribe.*
- (b) The expedited development review process shall cease and the proposed developments shall be reviewed using the full development review process if an Indian tribe submits substantive written comments during the comment period that identify the treaty rights that exist in the project vicinity and explain how they would be affected or modified by the proposed development.*

No substantive comments identifying treaty rights or concerns were received from Indian tribes during the comment period. The site is located over one and half miles from the Columbia River and does not affect treaty fishing or fishing practices. The project also does not affect any first foods, or traditional foods, located in the vicinity. Given this information, the development does not affect or modify any treaty or other rights of any Indian tribe. Given this information, the proposed addition is consistent with Commission Rule 350-81-052(2)

Conclusion:

The proposed development is consistent with the treaty rights protection guidelines for expedited review uses in Commission Rule 350-81-052(2).

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