PMC-EF2a
(2.04.02)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
EERE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER
NEPA DETERMINATION

RECIPIENT: City of Birmingham **STATE:** AL

PROJECT TITLE : Birmingham Rec Center GSHP Installation ARRA-EECBG

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE FOA 0000013			0

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have made the following determination:

CX, EA, EIS APPENDIX AND NUMBER:
Description:

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy, demonstrate potential energy conservation, and promote energy-efficiency that do not increase the indoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, designers), organizations (such as utilities), and state and local governments. Covered actions include, but are not limited to: programmed lowering of thermostat settings, placement of timers on hot water heaters, installation of solar hot water systems, installation of efficient lighting, improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings, development of energy-efficient manufacturing or industrial practices, and small-scale conservation and renewable energy research and development and pilot projects. The actions could involve building renovations or new structures in commercial, residential, agricultural, or industrial sectors. These actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation.

A9 Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring.

Rational for determination:

The City of Birmingham is proposing to install 12 sets of 25 ton Ground Source Heat Pumps at 8 locations at local recreation centers across Birmingham. Each system will consist of 16 boreholes at a depth of 500 ft with a spacing of each borehole at 25x25ft. The systems will circulate potable water as a heat transfer median and the boreholes will be comprised of High Density Polyethylene and completely encased in a thermally enhanced grout top to bottom. Each site has included a map of the proposed installation location. All of the sites locations are on previously disturbed land located usually on or direct adjacent to baseball fields. The following has been stated regarding land disturbance and restoration efforts; City Architect " The contractor is to comply with the City of Birmingham's requirements for soil erosion control and obtain all necessary soil erosion permits for each site. The contractor shall be required to submit and receive approval for soil erosion control plans for each site prior to commencement of project activities. Any planted areas disturbed by drilling or excavation are to be repaired and returned to their original condition. These stipulations have been clarified by addendum."

The City of Birmingham has also provided the following assurances via a letter from the City's Department of Public Works, "INTEGRAL ELEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER CONDITIONS The City of Birmingham will not participate nor fund any contractor's project proposal that would:

(1) Threaten any environment, safety, health regulations or permits, including any DOE requirements and/or Executive Orders.

(2) Require siting and construction of major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery or treatment facilities.

(3) 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 unpermitted releases.

(4) Adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources including, but not limited to,

a) Any property of historic significance or any property eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;

b) Any federally-or state-listed threatened or endangered species or their habitat;

c) Any wetlands regulated under the CWA and floodplains;

d) Any area having a special federally or state designation, i.e., parks, scenic or wild rivers, wildlife refugees, marine sanctuaries; prime agricultural lands; sole-source aquifers, wellhead protection areas.

WASTE STREAM CONDITIONS:

The City of Birmingham has committed to obtaining a Waste Management Plan addressing waste generated by our proposed Ground Source Heat Pump Activity prior to awarding a contractor this project. The City of Birmingham shall make the waste management plan and all related documentation available to DOE, at their request.

NHPA CONDITIONS:

The City of Birmingham has received the State Historical Society's approval for the installation of the Ground Source Heat Pumps. Documentation attached.

With the information outlined above the proposed project has been determined to have no significant impact on the human health and/or environment. Therefore this project is Categorically Excluding under A9 "Information gathering" and B5.1 "Actions to Conserve Energy".

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 4/1/10

NEPA Compliance Officer

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

☐ Field Office Manager review required

NCO REQUESTS THE FIELD OFFICE MANAGER REVIEW FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

☐ Proposed action fits within a categorical exclusion but involves a high profile or controversial issue that warrants Field Office Manager's attention.

☐ Proposed action falls within an EA or EIS category and therefore requires Field Office Manager's review and determination.

BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :

Field Office Manager's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Field Office Manager