PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Phillips County **STATE:** CO

PROJECT TITLE: CRED - Phillips County 30MW Wind Project

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-000122	DE-EE0003073		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:

C12 Siting, construction, and operation of energy system prototypes including, but not limited to, wind resource, hydropower, geothermal, fossil fuel, biomass, and solar energy pilot projects.

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:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to the recipient to design, construct, commission, and operate a 30MW community wind project located in Phillips and Logan counties in northeastern Colorado. Current plans are for the project to consist of 17 to 20 wind turbines. The project would interconnect to the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) transmission system. Few or no new transmission lines will be required for this project.

This project will be conducted in two phases. Phase 1, Task 1, would include a wind resource assessment, site evaluation and selection, an interconnect feasibility evaluation, negotiations with WAPA, and financing. Phase 1, Task 2, would involve preliminary design and permitting activities. Construction would occur during Phase 2.

CX A9 applies to the planning, preliminary design, preliminary site evaluations, and project management activities (Phase 1, Tasks 1 and 2).

An Environmental Assessment (EA C12) is required prior to DOE committing funds to final design, construction, commissioning and operation activities (Phase 2, all tasks).

WAPA will participate in development of the EA.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Final design, construction, commissioning and operation activities (Phase 2).
This restriction does not preclude you from:

Planning, preliminary design and project management activities. (Phase 1)

The recipient is authorized to initiate the preparation of an EA by a third-party contractor, consistent with DOE NEPA implementing regulations. DOE, the Phillips County, and third-party contractor shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) defining the scope of services to be completed by the third-party contractor on behalf of DOE.

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 4/7/10

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: 4/8/10

Field Office Manager