PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: AA Solar Products **STATE:** IL

PROJECT TITLE : AA Solar Tracking System Factory

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000119	GFO-10-331	EE119

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:

B1.31 Relocation of machinery and equipment, such as analytical laboratory apparatus, electronic hardware, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment, including minor construction necessary for removal and installation, where uses of the relocated items will be similar to their former uses and consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure.

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.

Rational for determination:

The Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity will provide $1,776,268 in Recovery Act funds to AA Solar Products (AA Solar) to purchase and install equipment and machinery for the design, fabrication, and assembly of solar energy tracking systems. AA Solar intends to occupy a vacant facility in Danville, Illinois and use the funding to construct and equip a clean room for installing and testing circuit boards; a design and engineering room; a testing and quality assurance room; a monitoring room; and a machine tool area. The project will not increase the footprint of the building; the work will be confined to construction within the building. The facility will produce ground based and roof-mounted solar photovoltaic systems and photovoltaic tracking systems for street lights and mobile units.

The existing 65,000sqft facility is a former Thyssen building that was originally built in the late 1980's. An additional 50,000sqft was added in the late 1990's. Thyssen was using the building for storage of crank shafts. According to information from the recipient, Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments have been completed, which identified no contamination. AA Solar is required to obtain the required permits before starting operation.

This activity comprises actions to install equipment and machinery at an existing facility for the manufacture of products and systems that promote energy conservation. This effort is consistent with categorical exclusion B1.31 and B5.1.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

According to the project officer, funding for this project is $1,776,268. Unless there is a significant change in scope, a change in funding will not affect my determination.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 4/22/10
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