PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: County of Chester **STATE:** PA

PROJECT TITLE : Chester County (PA): Chester Valley Trail Extenstion - ARRA-EECBG

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA0000013	DE-EE0000932.013		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.

Rational for determination:

The Project Activity Sheet (PAS) titled "Chester Valley Trail Extension and Trailhead" submitted by the County of Chester, Pennsylvania, involves the construction of an 0.25-mile extension to an existing bike and pedestrian trail, and trailhead access facilities. The trail extention would be constructed to a width of 12 feet with a 2-foot graded shoulder on each side utilizing an existing gravel-packed railroad right-of-way. The trailhead access facilities would include: new paved access drive to a paved parking lot with 43 parking spaces; new stormwater management facilities; and new landscape plantings on County-owned property.

A State General NPDES permit (PAG-2001507010) has been issued for the project, and was approved on May 14, 2007. The Erosion & Sediment Control Plan for the project was approved on May 14, 2007, and has been extended to 2012, running concurrently with the NPDES permit.

All work will be completed within an existing railroad utility right-of-way where vegetation is routinely cut back or sprayed to avoid overhead line interference. There are no areas of woody vegetation that will be impacted by the proposed construction. The site will be restored and stabilized by planting turf grass for lawn areas and the trail shoulders. The stormwater infiltration basins will be seeded with a native meadow seed mixture that will require mowing only once a year. In addition, numerous trees and shrubs will be planted per the requirement of the Township ordinance. The stormwater management facilities have been designed and approved by West Whiteland Township in accordance with their local ordinance and the County has entered into a stormwater management maintenance agreement with the Township. The Recipient has confirmed that no improvements will be constructed within a floodplain area.

The project has been cleared through the Pennsylvania Natural History Inventory (PNDI) system. Clearance of endangered and threatened species was required to obtain the NPDES permit. The West Whiteland Township also considered the proposed improvements in relation to cultural and historic resources as a component of their land development approval process.

The Chester Valley Trail Extension and Trailhead, as described in the revised PAS, is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under B5.1.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:
If you intend to make changes to the scope or objective of your project you are required to contact the Project Officer identified in Block 11 of the Notice of Financial Assistance Award before proceeding. You must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved.

Note to Specialist :

The original Project Activity Sheet included the construction of a new restroom facility with new sewer lines, water lines and electric lines. The new restroom facility has been removed from the revised Project Activity Sheet and is not included in this NEPA determination.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 4/20/10
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