PMC-EF2a
(2.06.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Lafarge **STATE:** CO

PROJECT TITLE : Lafarge Groundwater Monitoring Wells (NREL 11-023)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
		NREL 11-023	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:

B3.1 Onsite and offsite site characterization and environmental monitoring, including siting, construction (or modification), operation, and dismantlement or closing (abandonment) of characterization and monitoring devices and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis. Activities covered include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

Rational for determination:

The Department of Energy's (DOE's) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) National Wind Technology Center (NWTC) is located southeast of the intersection of Colorado Highway (CO) 93 and CO-128 in Jefferson County, Colorado. The NWTC is a federally-owned facility that consists of 305 acres and is primarily used for wind energy research, development, and testing.

This project would involve the installation of three groundwater monitoring wells by Lafarge North American on the DOE property. The installation and monitoring of the three wells would be considered site characterization and monitoring of groundwater as outlined in Categorical Exclusion B3.1.

Drilling would be conducted by a subcontractor, Layne Christensen. The area in the vicinity of the proposed well locations (Well #1, Well #2 and Well #5) is grassland and disturbed grassland. Well #2 is located adjacent to a topsoil stockpile and gravel/sand mine (see attached Bluestone Well Locations Map 4-18-11). All well locations would be accessed via established roadways. Prior to any ground disturbance, a migratory ground nesting bird survey would be required during the active nesting season, from mid-March to mid-September, for protected species in the area. If any protected species are encountered, operations activities would cease and Lafarge would contact DOE. The area of disturbance would be estimated to be less than five square feet for each soil boring. Drilling activities are estimated to take less than one week and would result in minor, temporary air emissions at the site. If any cultural resources are encountered during drilling, activities would cease and Lafarge would contact DOE.

The depth of each soil boring is expected to be between 35 and 55 feet below ground surface or until groundwater is encountered. Each boring will then be converted into a groundwater monitoring well. Monitoring of the groundwater levels would occur on a monthly basis for a total of fifteen months. Lafarge would be required to protect groundwater resources in the area in accordance with the State of Colorado Water Well Construction Rules (2 CCR 402-2) for permitting, installation and well abandonment. A monitoring well permit would be required for each well and is issued by the State of Colorado Engineering Office. After monitoring is complete, the wells will be abandoned and the site will be restored.

NEPA PROVISION

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:
Lafarge is required to perform migratory ground nesting bird surveys between March 15th and September 15th prior to construction activities.

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Lori Plummer / Lori Plummer Date: 4/20/2011
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