PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Ohio Energy Resources Division **STATE:** OH

PROJECT TITLE : SEP ARRA - Central Ohio BioEnergy - Columbus CNG fueling station

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	EE0000165	GFO-0000165-026	GO0

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:

Central Ohio BioEnergy, LLC (COB) proposes to install a public CNG (compressed natural gas) fueling station in Columbus, Ohio at an operating anaerobic digestion system located at 2500 Jackson Pike. The digester operating in Columbus processes regional municipal wastewater, FOG (fats, oils and grease) and food waste generating 1 MW of electricity. The Columbus digester is creating excess biogas that has the potential to generate 275,912 gallons of gasoline equivalent (gge) each year.

SEP funds will be used to integrate a 150 scfm biogas purification system, 75 scfm compressor and CNG refueling station into an existing anaerobic digestion system in Columbus, Ohio. The total project cost is $1,546,402. The amount of SEP funding requested is $1,000,000.

The foundation for the gas cleaning system and public fueling station will require excavation to prepare the site for concrete paving and a concrete slab upon which the equipment will be mounted. Excavation will be approximately 42 inches deep. The site is currently a dirt and gravel lot that was previously disturbed by the construction of the anaerobic digestion facility. The system will consist of equipment that is up to 10' in height, and 10' x 40' containers for mechanical equipment. Other equipment will be skid mounted and will not require excavation. The area is accustomed to regular traffic. The site is on an existing hard paved and gravel roads with regular deliveries to the neighboring anaerobic digestion facility. Some upgrade will be required to the current roads/drives for public vehicle access. We estimate that a 100 ft long by 80 ft wide area will be cleared for the fueling station including paving and approaches. The proposed project will occur within the existing facility boundary. Both the gas cleaning and compression portion of this project are covered by existing EPA permits. OEPA doesn't require an air permit for a CNG fueling station unless a fuel burning engine is used on site for the compression. A 60 hp electric motor will be used on this project, and therefore an additional air permit is not required. The potential may exist for a local building permit to be required. Gas will be transported to the CNG fueling station via code qualified piping. The gas cleaning system location is isolated and should not create a nuisance for neighbors. Noise attenuation from the gas cleaning system will be handled by a container.

After a thorough review of the information submitted for the proposed project, it has been concluded that the proposed project will not have a significant impact to human health and /or the environment. Therefore the proposed project is hereby Categorically Excluded under 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 :

EF2a completed by Logan Sholar

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 4/5/11
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