PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Pueblo of Jemez **STATE:** NM

PROJECT TITLE : Recovery Act: Innovative exploration techniques for geothermal assessment at Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000109	DE-EE0002841	GFO-0002841-005	GO2841

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:

A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to Pueblo of Jemez (Jemez) to develop and demonstrate geothermal resources on the Pueblo of Jemez Reservation.

Portions of this project were previously approved by GFO-10-163 (February 9, 2010), GFO-10-598 (August 17, 2010), GFO-0002841-003 (March 2, 2011), and GFO-0002841-004 (September 20, 2011). Subsequent to those approvals, the recipient modified the planned drilling program and added a task to the Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO) to create a regulatory/permitting framework for the field activities that are planned to occur on Jemez lands. Drilling of the second well has been cancelled and the first well that was approved as part of GFO-0002841-004 has been modified to be drilled in two-stages. This change has not affected the drill location or surface disturbance anticipated for drilling of the well, therefore Task 4 (previously Subtask 4.1) remains approved by the previous NEPA determination. This NEPA determination is specific to Subtask 3.2 which has been added to the present SOPO. All other tasks remain approved by previous NEPA determinations.

Subtask 3.2 Permitting Process – Because no state or federal regulatory authority exists for exploratory activities at Jemez, a drilling permit in conformance with State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division regulations would be developed by the Pueblo. Jemez would also develop a Monitoring Plan and Program to provide for inspection to ensure compliance with the permit provisions. The inspector would report any failure on the part of the Pueblo's contractors to comply with the permit requirements directly to the Pueblo and the DOE Project Officer.

This subtask is composed of information gathering, data analysis, and document preparation; therefore the DOE has categorized this proposal into Categorical Exclusion A9.

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:

Jemez must utilize New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Rules for construction/drilling activities to develop a

Monitoring Plan and Program for construction/drilling activities and hire an environmental contractor to self-regulate and monitor the construction/drilling activities to ensure that Jemez's contractors comply with rigorous safety/environmental controls. Jemez must submit the Monitoring Plan and Program to the DOE and DOE must provide written confirmation that the Monitoring Plan and Program is technically adequate prior to construction/drilling activity implementation.

Note to Specialist :

EF2a prepared by Casey Strickland

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 4/4/2012
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