PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Office of Energy Resources

STATE: ID

PROJECT TITLE : SEP ARRA REEZ - City of Sandpoint - Phase 1

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	DE-EE000141	GFO-0000141-008	EE141

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 (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring.

A11 Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

Rational for determination:

The Department of Energy (DOE) has granted federal funding to the Idaho Office of Energy Resources (OER) under the DOE's State Energy Program, which was funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The proposed project is under OER's Renewable Energy Efficiency Zone (REEZ) Program market title. OER is proposing to provide a portion of its SEP funding (~$270,000.00) to the City of Sandpoint for an anaerobic digester, which would capture the methane/biogas currently being flared to generate electricity. The proposed project would be located at the city's existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) located at 723 South Ella Avenue, Sandpoint, ID 83864. This project consists of two phases:

Phase 1: In Phase 1, the City will use SEP funds to apply to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for an Air Quality Permit and engineering costs associated with the permit application. Because the City of Sandpoint is in nonattainment, all new sources (even those at existing facilities) must apply for a new source permit.

Phase 2: In Phase 2, if granted an air permit, the City would use SEP funds to finalize the engineering and design work, and purchase and install the necessary equipment to complete its proposed project.

DOE has determined that the City must complete Phase 1 prior to making a NEPA determination regarding the entire project scope. The air quality permit application and modeling may cost up to $10,000.00. DOE has determined that Phase 1 activities consist of application preparation, modeling, and technical advice. Phase 1 is categorically excluded under CX A9 and A11. The City must submit it air quality permit to DOE and DOE must complete its NEPA review of Phase 2 prior to the City finalizing its engineering, final design, and purchasing and/or installing equipment for this proposed project.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Phase 2 activities (final engineering and design and purchasing and/or installing equipment).
This restriction does not preclude you from:
Phase 1 activities (air quality permit application and associated engineering work).
If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Note to Specialist :

Prepared by Melissa Rossiter

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 8/3/11
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