PMC-EF2a
(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund **STATE:** VT

PROJECT TITLE : Vermont Biofuels Initiative: State Line Biofuels 09

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-FG36-08GO88182	GFO-GO88182-027	GO88182

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:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to the Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund (VSJF), sub-recipient State Line Biofuels, to purchase and install equipment to expand an existing oilseed and biodiesel operation located at 601 State Line Road, North Bennington, Vermont 05257. This NEPA review is a continuation for State Line Biofuels (GFO-09-057b).

The existing biofuel facility provides biodiesel and livestock meal for use at State Line Biofuels and it provides contract oilseed pressing, and meal and biodiesel production for neighboring farms. The production capacity of State Line Biofuels was developed to serve the fuel and feed needs of 10-15 farms within a 30-mile radius, encompassing 1,500-2,000 acres of oilseed crops.

The proposed project is intended to improve operational capacity and efficiency in order to expand the scale of oilseed and biodiesel processing in the Bennington County area. To meet these objectives, State Line Biofuels would purchase and install the following equipment:

- 30 ton grain drying and storage bin,
- 2 grain activity carts,
- 1 grain movable auger
- scales for weighing oilseed deliveries

The new equipment would be installed on a new concrete pad. The concrete pad for the 30-ton grain drying and storage bin (12 feet in diameter) would be installed on ground that is almost level. The total area to be scraped would be 153 square feet. The new bin would be installed adjacent to the existing Bio Barn. An additional deep grain pit (8 feet X 8 feet X 6 feet) would be dug to store the received grain. The grain would be distributed using the moveable auger.

The existing facility has been previously disturbed. Impacts to cultural resources are not expected. The proposed project would not result in adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species, floodplains, wetlands, and waters of the United States, as these are not known to occur in the area.

Based on this information, DOE has determined that the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in Categorical Exclusion 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:

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 :

Cristina Tyler 8.23.2011

DOE Funding: $25,000
Cost Share: $25,000
Total Project Cost: $50,000

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 8/29/2011
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