PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Governor's Energy Office **STATE:** CO

PROJECT TITLE : COLORADO SEP ARRA - Geothermal Power Direct Use Grant - Town of Rico

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	DE-EE0000082	GFO-0000082-009	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:

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

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.

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:

The Town of Rico is proposing to use $25,000 in SEP funding to develop a Community Outreach and Consensus Building Plan, which will identify, educate, and engage landowners and the public in front-end geothermal development planning. The plan will analyze existing information (from e.g. Atlantic Richfield Company's Voluntary Cleanup and 2010 geophysical studies by the Colorado School of Mines Geothermal Academy), supplement it with new information and public input, and develop a geothermal development plan which addresses legal issues (including analysis of surface, subsurface, and geothermal rights), implications of recent state geothermal development legislation (SB 10-174), and water rights. SEP funds will be used in three primary areas, including planning and legal consultants, and mapping services.

There is no new construction or expansion of existing buildings related to the proposed project. There is no ground disturbance as a result of the proposed project. This planning process does not require any permits. Approval of this project by the Town of Rico has been obtained.

The proposed project is consistent with activities outlined in A9 "information gathering" and A11 "technical advice", and B5.1 "actions to conserve energy"; therefore, it is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

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: 12/8/10
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