PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: State of Utah **STATE:** UT

PROJECT TITLE : Large Scale Solar - Roof Mounted - Red Rock Canyon School

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000083	GFO-0000083-015	EE83

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:

The State of Utah proposes to award $406,000 to Red Rock Canyon School to help fund the purchase and installation of a new 203.5 kW solar photovoltaic (PV) system to help offset the school's annual energy consumption and costs. THe proposed project will provide approximately $21,783 in savings to the school and supply approximately 46% of the facility's energy needs. The proposed solar pv project will be roof mounted and installed on two buildings that are part of a school campus that was previously a resort hotel. The buildings are approximately 102,500 sq. ft and are located in an area zoned C2- Commercial Zone by the City of St. George, Utah; http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/codebook/index.php?book_id=399

The proposed project is located within a highly urbanized area comprised primarily of commercial businesses. The Red Rock Canyon School campus was originally designed as a hotel and was built in approximately 1984. The proposed system will be split in to two arrays and installed on two separate buildings. One array will be built on existing solar rack that currently supports a non-functioning Solar Thermal system. The new Solar PV array will replace the old thermal panels and use the existing rack. This array is positioned on the roof of the dormitory area of the school and is visible from the south at the entrance foyer and court yard of the school. The second array will be installed with a rack on the flat roof of the convention building which houses an auditorium, dining hall and offices. The building roof has a perimeter facade that will shield most of the view of the solar array from public view.

An engineering evaluation of the existing solar panel rack and the convention building roof was conducted by McNeil Engineering for the purpose of installing new solar panels to these structures. McNeil Engineering concluded that the existing rack is adequate for the new solar panels. For the convention building McNeil Engineering recommends that the new solar panel system supports be placed directly over and attached to the existing trusses and would be equivalent in weight to re-roofing the facility.

Per the Utah State Energy Program (USEP) all SHPO compliance will be meet and that there is an executed Programmatic Agreement (PA) between Utah SHPO, Utah SEP and the US DOE signed April 14, 2010. Utah SEP has determined that that this proposed project meets the PA list of "exemptions" for certain PV system activities (Appendix B, 4, f,2): 2) Solar PV roof mounted behind parapet or "not visible from the public right of way" and will not require new building reinforcement for buildings 50 yrs or old.

The system will be net metered and grid connected to the City of St. George municipal Electric per the City of St. George's Electric and Building Departments net metering requirements. All construction debris associated with this proposed project will be disposed in accordance with City of St. George construction permits by a licensed waste management firm.

A building permit will need to be obtained from the City of St. George, UT prior to implementation of this project. The City of St. George, UT is currently reviewing electrical drawings and engineering for this proposed project prior to issuing the permit. No other permits are anticipated for this project.

Negligible or no impacts are anticipated to biological, visual, cultural, wetlands, or other sensitive habitats as the proposed project will occur on an existing building within a commercially zone, highly developed area.

Based on the above information this project is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX number B 5.1, 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 :

Completed by Bill Knapp

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 12/22/10

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