PMC-EF2a

(2.06.02)

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

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

PROJECT TITLE: Large Scale Solar - Ground Mounted - Ram Manufacturing

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000083	GFO-0000083-014	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 use $500,000 of SEP Recovery Act funding towards the installation of a large scale ground mounted solar PV project located within an industrial area of St.George, Utah. The total size of the proposed PV project will be 250 kW with a total anciticpated project cost of $1,917,500. The purpose of this project is to offset energy consumption levels for an adjacent manufacturing facility.

The proposed project will be comprised of 1,353 mono-crystalline silicon PV panels rated at 185 watts and placed a 15 degree tilt. The system will be net metered and grid connected per applicable local and state electrical/building code requirements and it will be connected to an existing manufacturing facility building via an underground trench approximately 220 feet. The trench requirements and approximate dimensions will be determined by the selected contractor and will follow local and state electrical/building codes. The current bid proposal has the connection being underground but it may change to an overhead connection if a different contractor is selected. If so, it will meet local and state electrical/building code requirements.

The proposed project location is within an area officially zoned as M-2 Manufacturing Zone by the City of St. George, Utah; [http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/codebook/index.php?book_id=399] (see: Title 10 Chapter 11); Zoning Map : [http://enet.sgcity.org/departments/it/gis/upload/Zoning.pdf].

The foot print of the solar PV array will be approximately 19,048 sq. ft. (0.44acres). The entire area for the proposed solar PV array has been previously disturbed during the construction of the existing manufacturing facility and is not within a Brownfield or a Greenfield. The site will be graded-leveled to create an even base for the array. The disturbed soil will be spread over the site to aid in the leveling. All ground preparation, grading, and footings will be to engineered plans. The ground area to be disturbed is comprised of sparse vegetation cover, mainly small shrubs, and is surrounded by parking lots, buildings and private property. The surrounding area is comprised of other industrial/manufacturing facilities.

Potential Environmental Impacts of the Project and Assocaited Actions:

Based on the proposed project location within a previously disturbed, commercial manufacturing area, there would be no or negligible impacts to visual resources, cultural resources, biological resources, wetlands, wildilfe species, or other sensitive ecological habitats.

The Utah State Energy Program (USEP) is working in accordance with an executed Programmatic Agreement (PA) between Utah SHPO, Utah SEP and the US DOE. Upon review of the SHPO PA, DOE has determined that that this

proposed project meets the PA list of "exemptions" for certain PV system activities (Appendix B, 4, f); "solar PV ground mounted with ground disturbance on previously disturbed sites", and therefore no further SHPO coordinate will be required.

All construction debris associated with this proposed project will be disposed and/or recycled in accordance with state laws. All storm-water will run-off the solar panels and onto the surrounding ground for absorption and/ or evaporation. The climate for this area is relatively dry with average rainfall of 8.25 inches and 3.2 inches of snow.

Based on the information above, 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: 12/2/10

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