PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: NH Office of Energy and Planning **STATE:** NH

PROJECT TITLE : State of New Hampshire Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000013	DE-EE0000668	GFO-0000668-001	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:

B5.19 Ground source heat pumps

The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available smallscale ground source heat pumps to support operations in single facilities (such as a school or community center) or contiguous facilities (such as an office complex) (1) only where (a) major associated activities (such as drilling and discharge) are regulated, and (b) appropriate leakage and contaminant control measures would be in place (including for cross-contamination between aquifers); (2) that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in subsurface temperature; and (3) would be located within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

Rational for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided funding to the State of New Hampshire (NH) under the DOE's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). NH proposes to use provide ~ $142,701 of EECBG funding to the Town of Rye for energy efficient upgrades and construction of a 20 ton ground source heat pump system (GSHP) at the Rye Town Hall building (proposed project).

The proposed project would be constructed at 10 Central Road, Rye, NH. The GSHP would consist of 6-8 boreholes vertically drilled to a depth of ~270 feet. The system would use potable water and no anti-freeze solution would be used. The GSHP would be closed loop and the wells would be grouted using a cement/sand mixture. Piping would be HDPE tubing. The system would be tested annually to detect leaks. Achieve Energy of Beverly, MA would construct the project and would be licensed and will follow the guidelines of the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association.

The area where the GSHP would be located is directly north of the Town Hall on previously disturbed land. Total ground disturbance would ~4800 sq ft and after installation trenches will be backfilled and the area re-vegetated. There are no drinking water wells or sole-source aquifers at the proposed project location. The Atlantic Ocean is located ~ 4600 feet from the Town Hall. The Town of Rye is a Coastal Zone and Coastal Watershed community. Rye will coordinate with or will ensure its construction contractor coordinates with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to determine if the proposed project is subject to a federal consistency review.

The proposed project has been reviewed by the Rye Historical Commission and the NH Division of Historical Resources. Both agencies have determined the proposed project will not adversely impact listed or eligible cultural/historic resources.

Due the location, DOE has determined the proposed will not effect any Threatened or Endangered Species that may be found in the area.

The proposed project is consistent with categorical exclusion B5.19 – "Ground source Heat Pumps:" installation of a commercially available small-scale ground source heat pump to support operations in a single facility. Therefore, based on analysis of the proposed project (including its potential for cumulative impacts), DOE has concluded the proposed project will not significantly impact the human environment and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX B5.19.

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 :

DOE funding: $142,701
EF2a completed by Melissa Rossiter

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 12/7/2011
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