PMC-EF2a
(20602)

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

RECIPIENT: WA Dept. of Commerce **STATE:** WA

PROJECT TITLE: Washington State Ferries Biodiesel Project - Phase II

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000139	GFO-0000139-039	EE139

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:

B5.22 Alternative fuel vehicle fueling stations
The installation, modification, operation, and removal of alternative fuel vehicle fueling stations (such as for compressed natural gas, hydrogen, ethanol and other commercially available biofuels) on the site of a current or former fueling station, or within a previously disturbed or developed area within the boundaries of a facility managed by the owners of a vehicle fleet. 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:

DOE is proposing to provide $187,400 in SEP ARRA funding to the Washington Department of Commerce, sub-recipient Rainier Petroleum Corporation (Rainier), to purchase and install a new 25,000 gallon biodiesel tank and associated fueling equipment. The proposed project would supply the Washington State Ferries (WSF) with a blended biodiesel at the existing fuel facility. The proposed project would supply Washington State Ferries with 300,000 gallons of biodiesel per year.

Previous NEPA determination GFO-0000139-027 (CX A9 and A11), signed on 3.16.2011, allowed Phase I activities (preliminary engineering studies, preliminary site plans, permits and regulatory compliance). This NEPA determination applies to Phase II (equipment purchase and equipment installation).

The proposed project would take place on Pier 15 of Elliot Bay (1711 13th Avenue SW, Seattle, Washington 98134). The proposed site is a waterfront lot and commercial bulkhead shoreline. The site is zoned Industrial General-1 and the shoreline portion of the site is within the Urban Industrial (UI) shoreline environment. The existing site includes a larger pier that houses a fueling facility. Adjacent to the proposed storage tank site is a lube oil storage facility, a warehouse and Rainer's office facility.

Rainier has been fueling WSF vessels in the Puget Sound since 1989. In 2009, the WSF asked Rainier to make biodiesel available for their vessels. The proposed project would involve a 25,000 gallon, above-ground dike tank with secondary containment to be installed on property adjacent to Pier 15. The tank would be used to store a soy-based biodiesel feedstock used in the blending process. The proposed project would not involve any construction on the dock or add any pipelines above or below the dock. There would be no pilings removed or replaced. The biodiesel tank would not be located on the dock or in the water.

The proposed project would require a fuel pump, in-line blender and 475 feet of piping between the tank and the pier. Rainier would replace existing pipeline on top of the dock with new pipe that would transfer biodiesel from the dike tank to an in-line blender located next to an existing fuel header on the pier. The in-line blender would blend the soy based biodiesel feedstock with Ultra-Low Sulfur diesel as it is being dispensed from an existing fuel header into WSF vessels. Rainier will employ best management practices including paving and berming of drum storage areas, dust controls and other measures to prevent contamination during installation.

City codes and/or ordinances apply to the proposed project and would provide mitigation for some of the identified (temporary installation) impacts including: 1) Street Use Ordinance (watering streets to suppress dust, obstruction of the pedestrian right-of-way during construction, construction along the street right-of-way and sidewalk repair) and 2) Building Code (construction measures in general, including best management practices to address potential runoff of

surface water and sediment during construction).

Waste Disposal: All debris, overburden and other waster materials from construction will be disposed of in a way that prevents erosion from drainage or high water into any water body.

On November 10, 2011, Rainier received a SEPA Determination of Non-Significance and a Conditional Shoreline Substantial Development Permit. Currently, the proposed project is in the 21 day appeal period, which will expire on December 1, 2011. If no appeals are filed, the city will prepare a Land Use Permit.

Hazardous Waste: Equipment for the transportation, storage, handling or application of these materials will be maintained in a safe and leak proof condition. If a leak is detected, the further use of such equipment will be suspended until the deficiency has been corrected. The release of oil, chemicals or other hazardous materials onto or in the water is prohibited.

Stormwater: Washington's Stormwater, Grading and Drainage Control Code (SMC 22.800) protects water quality in the form of best management practices. These measures will be adequate to ensure protection of the shoreline from the installation that is proposed. To ensure long-term, operational compliance with the general shoreline development standards, the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (provided by Rainier) will be required to be implemented for the life of the proposed project.

Threatened and Endangered Species: On August 31, 2011, Rainier consulted with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Because the proposed project would not involve any construction on the dock, underneath the dock or add any pipelines above or below the dock, and because the biodiesel tank would not be located on the dock or in the water there would be no adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species known to occur in the aquatic environment. As such, the proposed project does not require a Hydraulic Project Approval from the WDFW.

Wetland/Floodplain: Due to the close proximity to water, the proposed site is subject to flooding, but is not located in a wetland or floodplain as the entire pier is covered in impervious surface.

Based on this information, DOE has determined the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in categorical exclusion B5.22 (installation of alternative fuel vehicle fueling stations on site of a current fueling station).

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 11.29.2011

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 :