PMC-EF2a

(2.06.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Houston Community College System

STATE: TX

PROJECT TITLE : South-Central Solar Instructor Training Network

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000078	DE-EE0005680	GFO-0005680-001	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:

A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination
Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

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

B3.14 Small-scale educational facilities
Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of small-scale educational facilities (including, but not limited to, conventional teaching laboratories, libraries, classroom facilities, auditoriums, museums, visitor centers, exhibits, and associated offices) within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Operation may include, but is not limited to, purchase, installation, and operation of equipment (such as audio/visual and laboratory equipment) commensurate with the educational purpose of the facility.

Rational for determination:

This NEPA determination applies to Phase 2. DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to the Houston Community College System (HCCS) to continue developing the solar "train-the-trainer" program. DOE funds would be used to support the education, training and professional development of solar instructors.

DOE made a previous determination for Phase 1 (GFO-10-234; CX A9 and B5.1; signed 2.23.2010). Phase 1 included purchase of one mock up roof that is assembled for training purposes and then disassembled and stored inside.

HCCS proposes to further develop a collaborative process used to train solar instructors. The training would involve co-teaching arrangements for new instructors to gain teaching experience, instructor training courses, expand training to include code and building officials, resource development groups that share best practices and develop collaborative agreements with other Regional Training Providers. Through this process, HCCS would refine and expand this training program in partnership with other organizations throughout the Midwest.

Based on this information, DOE has determined the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in categorical exclusion A9 (information gathering), A11 (technical advice and assistance to organization) and B3.14 (small-scale educational facilities).

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 2.13.2012

DOE Funding: $750,000

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 2/13/2012
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