PMC-EF2a

(2.01.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Minnesota Department of Commerce **STATE:** MN

PROJECT TITLE : SunShot Initiative: Rooftop Solar Challenge to Induce Market Transformation

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000549	DE-EE0005695	GFO-0005695-001	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:

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

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.)

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to the Minnesota Department of Commerce to support local and regional efforts to address and achieve measurable improvements in market conditions for both commercial and residential rooftop photovoltaic (PV) solar arrays.

DOE funding would be used to develop and implement a transparent, consistent, and expedient permitting and interconnection process for residential and small commercial rooftop PV systems throughout all participating jurisdictions; improve interconnection and net metering for the primary load-serving utility in each participating jurisdiction; increase distributed PV market activity and resolve legal issues around third party ownership models.

Based on this information, DOE has determined the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in categorical exclusion A9 (information gathering, analysis and dissemination) and A11 (technical advice and assistance to organizations).

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 1.24.2012

DOE Funding: $263,169
Cost Share: $38,846

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Kristi Ke Date: 1/27/2012