PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners **STATE:** FL

PROJECT TITLE : Clearwater Campus District Cooling - Activity 3 Geothermal Test Bores

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000013-000002	DE-EE0000795.003	GFO-0000795-003	GO795

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:

B3.1 Site characterization and environmental monitoring	Site characterization and environmental monitoring (including, but not limited to, siting, construction, modification, operation, and dismantlement and removal or otherwise proper closure (such as of a well) of characterization and monitoring devices, and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis). Such activities would be designed in conformance with applicable requirements and use best management practices to limit the potential effects of any resultant ground disturbance. Covered activities include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. (This class of actions excludes activities in aquatic environments. See B3.16 of this appendix for such activities.) Specific activities include, but are not limited to: (a) Geological, geophysical (such as gravity, magnetic, electrical, seismic, radar, and temperature gradient), geochemical, and engineering surveys and mapping, and the establishment of survey marks. Seismic techniques would not include large-scale reflection or refraction testing; (b) Installation and operation of field instruments (such as stream-gauging stations or flow-measuring devices, telemetry systems, geochemical monitoring tools, and geophysical exploration tools); (c) Drilling of wells for sampling or monitoring of groundwater or the vadose (unsaturated) zone, well logging, and installation of water-level recording devices in wells; (d) Aquifer and underground reservoir response testing; (e) Installation and operation of ambient air monitoring equipment; (f) Sampling and characterization of water, soil, rock, or contaminants (such as drilling using truck- or mobile-scale equipment, and modification, use, and plugging of boreholes); (g) Sampling and characterization of water effluents, air emissions, or solid waste streams; (h) Installation and operation of meteorological towers and associated activities (such as assessment of potential wind energy resources); (i) Sampling of flora or fauna; and (j) Archeological, historic, and cultural resource identification in compliance with 36 CFR part 800 and 43 CFR part 7.
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:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided funding Pinellas County, Florida under DOE's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. Pinellas proposes to use a portion of the funding to perform a feasibility study and drill two geothermal test wells. This determination applies to the expanded project portion for Clearwater Campus District Cooling, which is $16,000 of the total EECBG project cost of $1,539,300.

The wells would be drilled in a parking lot, located at 200 Rogers St., Clearwater, Florida 33756. The location would be in a commercial and residential area, which is previously disturbed. Two wells, supply and injection wells would be drilled at a depth of 260 ft. to test the thermal gradient for a potential ground source heat pump. The drilling, well construction and abandonment would be performed by Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFMD), a State approved driller. The boreholes would be sealed with a Bentonite/Cement mixture from the bottom up. When testing is completed, the test boreholes would be sealed, documented, and abandoned per SWFMD criteria. The project would create minimal land disturbance with any drilling discharge to be placed in an onsite retention pond or disposed at a certified site.

Wood Stork, Florida scrub-jay and golden aster are listed as endangered or threatened species for Pinellas County. DOE has concluded that the project would not affect any of the listed species, as the work would occur on pre-disturbed land and not located near any potential critical habitat. Due to proximity of the Gulf of Mexico and National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management Act boundaries, the entire State of Florida is subject to federal consistency reviews unless there is an exemption. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection deemed the project exempt from review due to no significant impact.

Based on review of project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that the drilling of the proposed test boreholes would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined the proposed project is consistent with the actions contained in DOE categorical exclusion A9 "information gathering, analysis, and dissemination," and B3.1 "site characterization and environmental monitoring" and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Any further projects will require a separate NEPA determination review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Diana Scott 7.20.2012

DOE Funding: $16,000

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 7/23/2012

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