

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: MI Department of Energy, Labor &amp; Economic Growth

STATE: MI

PROJECT  
TITLE : Clean Energy Advanced Manufacturing Phase 2 - Ventower

| Funding Opportunity Announcement Number | Procurement Instrument Number | NEPA Control Number | CID Number |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| DE-FOA-0000052                          | DE-EE0000166                  | GFO-09-148-017      | GO0        |

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:

**B5.1** Actions to conserve energy, demonstrate potential energy conservation, and promote energy-efficiency that do not increase the indoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, designers), organizations (such as utilities), and state and local governments. Covered actions include, but are not limited to: programmed lowering of thermostat settings, placement of timers on hot water heaters, installation of solar hot water systems, installation of efficient lighting, improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings, development of energy-efficient manufacturing or industrial practices, and small-scale conservation and renewable energy research and development and pilot projects. The actions could involve building renovations or new structures in commercial, residential, agricultural, or industrial sectors. These actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation.

## Rational for determination:

The State of Michigan will provide \$3,477,000 in Recovery Act funds to Ventower Industries (Ventower) to purchase equipment that will allow the company to manufacture structural steel utility scale towers used to support commercial sized wind turbines. Ventower is located at 111 Borchert Park Drive, Monroe, MI 48161.

Recovery Act funds will be used to purchase equipment that will be installed in the existing tower manufacturing facility. The equipment to be purchased includes the Hypertherm 400 plasma cutter and the Lincoln Electric's Powerwave 1000 sub-arc welding machines. These machines will increase the efficiency of the manufacturing process.

Ventower is in compliance with federal and state environmental statutes. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment has approved a Permit to Install (Michigan DNRE Air Quality Permit #52-10) with relation to the coatings process and believes that the proposed production and/or manufacturing process does not require additional permits. The manufacturing process will not use nor will it generate hazardous material/waste.

The project will not expand the footprint of the existing building, nor will it involve significant construction or repairs of the building. Consultation with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office indicates that there will be no impacts to archaeological resources. A review of the Michigan Natural Features Inventory database and mapping indicates that there are no current protected plant or animal species documented within or adjacent to the project area. This project will have no impact to migratory birds or other protected species.

Based on the information provided by the State and recipient, DOE has determined that the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B5.1.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

According to the project officer, funding for this project is \$3,477,000. Absent a significant change in the scope of this

effort, a change in funding will not affect my determination.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 6/30/10

**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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_