PMC-EF2a

(20602)

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

RECIPIENT: Flint Geothermal LLC **STATE:** CO

PROJECT TITLE : RECOVERY ACT: DIRECT CONFIRMATION OF COMMERCIAL GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES IN COLORADO USING REMOTE SENSING

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000109	DE-EE0002828	GFO-0002828-002	2828

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 Onsite and offsite site characterization and environmental monitoring, including siting, construction (or modification), operation, and dismantlement or closing (abandonment) 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. Activities covered include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

Rational for determination:

Flint Geothermal LLC (Flint) would locate geothermal resources in Colorado by applying processed remote imaging data to search for geothermal resources, then more direct on-site methods (temperature gradient wells and slim-holes) would be used to confirm the resource.

Phase I (Tasks 1 through 3) and Phase III – Task 12 (Task 10 of the present SOPO) of this project was previously approved by GFO-10-251 on April 7, 2010 with a CX A9. This NEPA determination is specific to Phase II – Task 4.

Phase II – Task 4:
The initial analyses of data collected in Phase I resulted in the selection of five broad potential geothermal resource areas to be further analyzed using geologic and geophysical surveys. Geological and geophysical surveys associated with this task may include stratigraphical and structural geology, faulting, chemical analysis, age of mineral deposits, surficial geothermal manifestations, magnetotelluric, and gravity.

Based on the results of the surveys conducted in Task 4, Flint would site multiple temperature gradient wells and two slim-holes to confirm the geothermal resource (Tasks 5 through 9). A future NEPA determination would be required prior to implementation of Task 5 through 9 activities.

Condition of Approval: Allowable – Phase II (Task 4); Prohibited – Phase II (Task 5) and Phase III (Tasks 6 through 9).

Phase II – Task 4 of this project is comprised of onsite geological and geophysical surveys. The DOE has categorized this proposal into Categorical Exclusion B3.1.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment

or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:
Phase II - Task 5
Phase III - Tasks 6 through 9
This restriction does not preclude you from:
Phase I - Tasks 1 through 3
Phase II - Task 4
Phase III - Task 10
If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Note to Specialist :

EF2a prepared by Casey Strickland

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 5/4/2011
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 :

Field Office Manager's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Field Office Manager