PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Growth Dimensions for Belvidere and Boone County Inc. **STATE:** IL

PROJECT TITLE : Biobased Materials Automotive Value Chain Market Development Analysis

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
CDP	DE-FG36-04GO14231	GFO-GO14231-009	GO14231

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 (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring.

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to Growth Dimensions for Belvidere and Boone County Inc., in Illinois, to perform a market feasibility analysis for biobased products related to the automotive industry.

The study would include information gathering literature search, meetings with representatives from several Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM's) and meetings with associations and educational institutions.

The scope of work for the proposed project would include an investigation of 1) the status of current biobased materials technology, 2) the existing and emerging industry trends toward development of biobased materials, 3) the leading supplier firms, educational institution and associations currently active in the automotive plastic sector, 4) feed stock considerations and 5) case study examples of successful OEM biobased product utilization would be examined.

In view of the information provided by the recipient, DOE has determined that the impacts related to the proposed project are anticipated to have negligible effects on the human and natural environment. CX A9 applies to this project as it includes information gathering, data analysis and conceptual design.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Cristina Tyler 5.4.2011

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

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

NEPA Compliance Officer