PMC-EF2a
(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Essex County Environmental Center **STATE:** NJ

PROJECT TITLE : Essex County Environmental Center Solar Panels and Educational Exhibits

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-EE0000426	GFO-0000426-001	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:

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.

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:

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 Essex County Environmental Center proposes to use federal funding to install solar panels on the roof of the Center and install environmental education exhibits based on energy efficiency within the Center.

This project will include the selection of a professional for construction, awarding of the contract, installation of the photovoltaic system on the roof of the Essex County Environmental Center, construction/fabrication of the new education exhibits with the Essex County Environmental Center consisting of a Green Home, a Green Technology Interactive Wall, a Rolling Discovery Interactive Station, an Outdoor Pavilion, Solar Energy Display Station, Wind Energy Display Station, Fuel Cell Display Station, energy efficient lighting, & signage and graphics. This project will also allocate funds for the purchase of an electric utility cart and a hybrid Ford Escape motor vehicle.

The display stations/exhibits will be housed within the Environmental Center and will include models of wind turbines and hydrogen fuel cells. There will be no outdoor installations of wind or fuel cells. The solar panels will be installed on the roof of the Environmental Center. This building was constructed in 1972 and is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The pavilion being constructed near the Environmental Center will consist of a pole building type structure. There will be no excavations for a foundation. The pavilion will be constructed over a grassy area that was at one time graded to level for a paved parking lot immediately adjacent. No wetlands, waterways, endangered species, or cultural resources will be affected by the construction of the pavilion.

The applicant has submitted an R & D Questionnaire which thoroughly addresses the safety protocols associated with the installations of the exhibits and solar panels.

This project is comprised of information dissemination, actions to conserve energy, and on site characterization; therefore a CX A9, B3.1, & B5.1 will apply.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Eugene Brown 4/28/2011

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 5/2/2011

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