PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: PPG Industries, Inc. **STATE:** PA

PROJECT TITLE : HIGH PERFORMANCE REFLECTOR PANELS FOR CONCENTRATING SOLAR POWER ASSEMBLIES - Solar

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-PS36-07GO97028	DE-FC36-08GO18033	GFO-GO18033-002	GO18033

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:

B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects	Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for smallscale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions, provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funding to PPG Industries Inc. (PPG) to perform laboratory research and development activities on high performance reflector panels for concentrating solar power operations.

DOE made a previous NEPA determination (GFO-08-049; B3.6; 3-19-2008), which restricted PPG from conducting performance and durability field-test validation with unidentified end-users in Phase II. This determination identifies one of the selected end-users, eSolar.

This NEPA determination applies to Phase II – performance and durability field-testing. Testing would be completed by eSolar at existing facilities located at Palmdale Operations Center (POC), 150 Grand Cypress Avenue, Palmdale, California 93551.

PPG Industries would send mirrors to eSolar to test for reflector flatness and manufacturing quality. The mirror sizes would be 31-1/2 inches x 55-29/32 inches x 3.2 mm, 10 non-tempered and 2 tempered samples.

eSolar completed an R&D questionnaire addressing the protocols for laboratory safety, risk management, chemical handling and waste disposal. eSolar complies with standard laboratory safety procedures. Labs are inspected by safety personnel. eSolar has all applicable permits in place to conduct research on site. No additional permits are needed for project activities. The laboratory general safety procedures would be followed. Personal protective equipment would be worn when necessary.

Based on review of project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the research 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 B3.6 "small-scale research and development," and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX B3.6.

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:

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:
Identify any additional end-users in Phase II testing.

Note to Specialist :

Diana Scott 5.07.2012

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 5/7/2012
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