

PMC-EF2a

(201402)

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

**RECIPIENT:**Arizona Geological Survey**STATE:** AZ

PROJECT TITLE : AASG State Geological Survey's Contributions to the National Geothermal Data System

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000109	DE-EE0002850	GFO-0002850-NM1	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:

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:

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 and cost share funding would be applied to expanding and enhancing the National Geothermal Data System (NGDS) by creating a national, sustainable, distributed, interoperable network of state geological survey-based data providers that will develop, collect, serve, and maintain geothermal-relevant data that operates as an integral compliant component of NGDS. Arizona Geological Survey (AZGS) would bring data from the State Geological Surveys into the NGDS, by digitizing at-risk legacy, geothermal-relevant data (paper records, samples, etc), publishing existing digital data using standard NGDS data services, and through limited collection of new data in areas lacking critical information.

All tasks within the SOPO were categorically excluded under by GFO-10-085 on 4/16/2010 because they all concerned the gathering, analysis, and dissemination of data via reports, publications, and the development of computer software and web-based programming. However, subsequent to that NEPA determination, additional funding was added into the award which provided the opportunity for various state geological surveys (acting as subcontractors to this award) to expand the scope of Subtask 2.4 to include collection of new data by field work, drilling of investigation wells, etc. States which expand Subtask 2.4 to include any of these activities will require additional NEPA analysis of Subtask 2.4 because field activities fall outside of the CX A9 from the original determination. All other tasks and subtasks (with the exception of Subtask 2.4) remain covered by the original NEPA determination (GFO-10-085). The original SOPO has been modified to distinguish between the states participating in the expansion of Subtask 2.4 to facilitate the multiple NEPA reviews that will be necessary for this award. Subtask 2.4 for Wisconsin also remains covered by NEPA determination (GFO-0002850-WI1 on 8/3/2011).

This NEPA determination is specific to New Mexico.

Subtask 2.4 (B) – Collection of New Data – New Mexico

This task involves collection and analysis of three types of field data: 1) temperature data from lowering a probe into existing wells; 2) geochemistry data of water samples collected from existing wells and springs; 3) mineralogical dating of rock samples using hand tools. Water, and rock samples, temperature logging, would be gathered by traveling on existing roads. If needed, at the end of the road, foot travel would be used to obtain samples. Cultural, historic, or biological resources would be avoided during sampling and well logging.

No habitat for any Threatened or Endangered (T&E) species would be removed and no disturbance would occur to T&E species due to the existing previously disturbed conditions at sampling locations. Cultural and historic resources would be avoided.

Based upon the information provided and the reviews completed, the expanded Subtask 2.4 for New Mexico is categorically excluded under CX A9 "Information gathering/data analysis," and B3.1 "Site characterization/

environmental monitoring."

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

If you intend to make changes to the scope or objective of your project you are required to contact the Project Officer identified in Block 11 of the Notice of Financial Assistance Award before proceeding. You must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

Water, and rock samples, temperature logging, would be gathered by traveling on existing roads. If needed, at the end of the road, foot travel would be used to obtain samples. Cultural, historic, or biological resources would be avoided during sampling and well logging.

Note to Specialist :

This EF2A was written by Christopher Carusona II

The total award amount is \$22,117,121
DOE Share = \$21,858,224
Cost Share = \$285,897

Amount to be released in this determination
DOE: \$200,000
AZGS cost share: \$0
Total: \$200,000

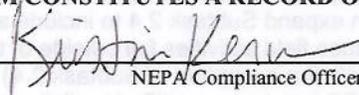
Previously released (GFO-10-085) \$18,058,844
DOE Share = \$17,799,947
Cost Share = \$258,897

Previously Released (GFO-0002850-W11) \$463,244
DOE Share = \$463,244
Cost Share = \$0

Remaining Restricted Funding amount is \$3,595,024
DOE Share = \$3,595,024
Cost Share = \$0

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:


NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

11/9/2011

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: