

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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

**RECIPIENT:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District**STATE:** CA**PROJECT TITLE :** CRED SMUD-SRCSD Co-digestion of FOG**Funding Opportunity Announcement Number**
DE-FOA-0000122**Procurement Instrument Number**
DE-EE0003070**NEPA Control Number**
GFO-0003070-007**CID Number**
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:

B5.21 Methane gas recovery and utilization systems

The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available methane gas recovery and utilization systems installed within a previously disturbed or developed area on or contiguous to an existing landfill or wastewater treatment plant that would not have the potential to cause a significant increase in the quantity or rate of air emissions. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

Rational for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide \$1,455,800 in federal funding to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) under the DOE's Community Renewable Energy Development program (total project cost \$2,989,036).

SMUD would use federal funding to implement a co-digestion of fats, oil and grease (FOG) and liquid food at the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWTP) in Elk Grove, California (proposed project). A new receiving station would be constructed at the SRWTP and would consist of a new concrete pad, two 15,000 gallon above-ground storage tanks, two mixing pumps, two grinders, and two transfer pumps. Existing digesters would be modified with additional mixing equipment and piping to introduce the new waste streams from the receiving station (e.g. brown grease and other liquid wastes). The additional waste streams would enhance biogas production (total output would range from 1 – 3 MW). Biogas produced from the digesters would be treated, cleaned, and pressurized at the SRWTP, pipeline injected (into an existing pipeline), and burned to generate electricity at the SMUD-owned Cosumnes Power Plant (CPP) in Sacramento, CA.

The proposed project received a "Categorical Exemption" under California's Environmental Quality Act because it was found to be a "negligible expansion of use" at the SRWTP.

DOE has determined that the proposed project would have no or minimal impact on land use, as it is consistent with the current use of the facility and would require only a minor expansion. Other than any permits related to the installation of the concrete pad and tanks, the proposed project will not require additional or modifications to the SRWTP's existing permits. The proposed project would not impact any wetlands or floodplains. DOE has determined the proposed project would have No Effect on any listed endangered or threatened species. DOE has determined the proposed project would not have an adverse effect to historic or cultural resources. DOE has determined the proposed project would lead to negligible increase in the amount of existing traffic at the SRWTP. DOE has determined the proposed project would have a small, but beneficial, impact on greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the distance the waste has to be transported to other processing facilities. DOE has determined the proposed project would have a small, but beneficial impact on waste/waste management by diverting up to 30,000 gallons/day of liquid waste from landfills and/or other disposal sites and utilizing it to produce power.

The proposed project is consistent with actions contained in categorical exclusion B5.21, methane gas recovery and utilization because it involves the installation and operation of a methane gas recovery system contiguous to an existing wastewater treatment facility. Therefore, based on analysis of the proposed project (including its potential for cumulative impacts), DOE has concluded the proposed project will not significantly impact the human environment and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX B5.21.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

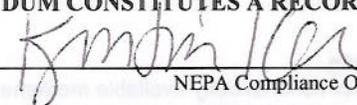
Insert the following language in the award:

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.

Note to Specialist :

CRED funding - \$1,455,800
Total Project cost - \$2,989,036
EF2a completed by Melissa Rositer

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Date: 11/17/2011
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