

PMC-EF2a

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



(20402)

RECIPIENT: The University of Texas at Austin

STATE: TX

**PROJECT TITLE :** Assessment of Offshore Wind Farm Effects on Sea Surface, Subsurface and Airborne Electronic Systems

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000414	DE-EE0005380	GFO-0005380-001	EE5380

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, analysis, and dissemination**

Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

**Rational for determination:**

The University of Texas at Austin is proposing to use DOE and cost-share funding to conduct a baseline evaluation of electromagnetic and acoustical challenges to sea surface, subsurface and airborne electronic systems presented by offshore wind farms. The recipient proposed to accomplish this goal by conducting data analyses, surveys, baseline studies, computer modeling and by attending informational conferences. Results would be disseminated through an assessment reports and final project report.

DOE has determined that impacts to the natural and human environments are expected to be negligible and that this project is consistent with actions covered under DOE CX A9 (information gathering, data analysis, document preparation and dissemination, and computer modeling) and therefore is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

**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 :

NEPA Review completed by Laura Margason on November 15, 2011.

Budget and Cost Share:

DOE Share = \$106,188  
Cost Share = \$53,094  
Total = \$53,094

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11/17/2011