PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

RECIPIENT: City of Allentown **STATE:** PA

PROJECT TITLE : Near Zero Carbon Footprint Energy Creation through Thermal Oxidation

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-EE0003617	GFO-10-615	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:

B3.6 Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of facilities for indoor bench-scale research projects and conventional laboratory operations (for example, preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); small-scale research and development projects; and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than two years) conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions. Construction (or modification) will be within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

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:

The City of Allentown, PA proposes to use federal funding to design a Municipal Solid Waste and sludge processing plant and test the feasibility via bench scale laboratory work. Their overall project consists of 4 phases, pre-installation, construction, systematic testing, and plant commissioning. This NEPA determination applies to Phase 1, Task 1.0 – Task 4.0 only.

Phase 1 tasks:
Task 1.1 Basic & detailed engineering to meet the process standards
Task 1.2 Design review on the above engineering steps
Task 1.3 Bench scale test system review
Task 1.4 Oversight engineering to assure all EPA and DEP standards are met
Task 1.5 Complete sign off on all engineering phase
Task 1.6 Process safety review
Task 1.7 Independent review of technologies
Task 2.0 Acquisition of required permits
Task 3.0 Environmental Analysis
Task 4.0 Project management and reporting.

The applicant has submitted an R & D questionnaire to address laboratory research studies, which thoroughly addresses all chemical and safety handling protocols.

This project comprises of information gathering and bench scale research to test the system; therefore a CX A9 & B3.6 will apply.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:
Phase 2, 3, and 4 activities are prohibited at this time and will require additional NEPA review by DOE.
This restriction does not preclude you from:
Phase 1, Tasks 1 - 4.
If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Note to Specialist :

Eugene Brown 10/25/2010

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 10/25/2010
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