PMC-EF2a

(2.06.02)

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

RECIPIENT: Oregon Department of Energy **STATE:** OR

PROJECT TITLE: SEP ARRA - Deployment of Innovative Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy - Agriculture - Olson-Ashbrook-Schanno-Uhalde-Zoller Projects

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	DE EE0000140	GFO-0000140-018	EE140

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:

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy, demonstrate potential energy conservation, and promote energy-efficiency that do not increase the indoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, designers), organizations (such as utilities), and state and local governments. Covered actions include, but are not limited to: programmed lowering of thermostat settings, placement of timers on hot water heaters, installation of solar hot water systems, installation of efficient lighting, improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings, development of energy-efficient manufacturing or industrial practices, and small-scale conservation and renewable energy research and development and pilot projects. The actions could involve building renovations or new structures in commercial, residential, agricultural, or industrial sectors. These actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation.

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide $30,000 in SEP ARRA funding to the State of Oregon, sub-recipient Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), to install improved efficiency irrigation equipment at agricultural sites throughout the State. These projects would introduce energy efficient pumps and/or Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) allowing landowners to reduce electrical consumption for irrigation water pumping.

Previous NEPA determinations include GFO-0000140-001 (CX B5.1) signed on 5.25.11 and GFO-0000140-010 (CX B5.1) signed on 9.23.11.

This NEPA review applies to five irrigation efficiency upgrades at five different locations: four are in Wasco County and one is in Morrow County, Oregon. All projects are located within a designated Flood Zone A (Area of Special Flood Hazard).

Sub-Project Descriptions:

1. Jim Olson Project (80840 Dufur Valley Road, Dufur, Wasco County, OR 97021). The proposed project would be located on the banks of Ramsey Creek in the Fifteenmile Watershed and would include the installation of a new irrigation booster pump system. The new system would replace a stream diversion and pumping site with a new booster pump system tied to an existing upstream, fish-friendly (screen) diversion, through a 5,000 foot, eight-inch pipe. This new booster pump system would replace the existing in-efficient pump system that is currently tied to another existing water diversion.

In a parallel project, funded by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), 5,000 feet of irrigation pipe would be installed via an open trench, through the agricultural field, to tie the new ODOE/SEP funded booster pump into the existing irrigation system that supplies irrigation for the landowner's property. This NRCS Irrigation System Upgrade Project is managed by Wasco County Soil & Water Conservation District (WCSWCD) and as of June 6, 2011, has been through NRCS NEPA review and approval. These two projects would allow the landowner to eliminate one energy inefficient pumping system, install a more energy efficient booster pumping system, upgrade their irrigation lines, use a more fish-friendly water diversion and allow one water diversion to use gravity instead of a diesel pump to transport water.

Both the projects are within Floodplain Flood Zone A. NRCS has determined the floodplain would not be adversely impacted by the proposed project. The Wasco County Planning and Development Department has approved the ODOE/SEP booster pump installation through a Ministerial Review Permit. The new booster pump would be installed on an existing concrete pad in a previously disturbed area and would require minimal ground disturbance.

On August 29, 2011, NRCS Cultural Resource Review/Survey determined "No Cultural Resources Affected" by the installation of the project they are funding.

2. Stan Ashbrook Project (75 Heimrich Street, Dufur, Wasco County, OR 97021). The proposed project is located along Fifteenmile Creek and would involve the replacement of an existing irrigation pump with a more energy efficient irrigation pump. The installation would occur on existing infrastructure in a previously disturbed area and would require minimal ground disturbance.

Pump upgrade projects within Areas of Special Flood Hazard must receive a permit from the Wasco County Planning and Development Department (WCPDD). WCPDD has determined certain low-risk projects may go through the Ministerial Review Permit application process. The proposed project has been approved by WCPDD under Ministerial Review.

3. Paul Schanno Project (82163 Dufur Valley Road, Dufur, Wasco County, OR 97021). The proposed project is located along Fifteenmile Creek and would involve the addition of a VFD to an existing irrigation pump. The installation would occur on existing infrastructure in a previously disturbed area and would require minimal ground disturbance.

Development projects, located within Areas of Special Flood Hazard in Wasco County, are required to secure a land use permit. According to the Wasco County Oregon Planning Department, a FEMA Development permit is not required. In a letter dated April 28, 2011, the Wasco County Oregon Planning Department confirmed that adding a VFD to an existing pump is not considered "development;" therefore DOE determines the project does not require a land use permit. Per the ODOE, County electrical permits are required for all VFD projects and would be secured by the electrical contractor prior to beginning work.

4. Don Uhalde Project (83223 Dufur Valley Road, Dufur, Wasco County, OR 97021). The proposed project is located along Fifteenmile Creek and would involve the replacement of an existing irrigation pump with a more energy efficient irrigation pump. The new pump would be trailer mounted for easy removal in case of flooding. The installation would occur on existing infrastructure in a previously disturbed area and would require minimal ground disturbance.

The proposed project has been approved by WCPDD under Ministerial Review.

5. Mark Zoller Project (Township 2N, Range 23E, section 7; Morrow County, OR). The proposed project is located along Willow Creek and would involve the replacement of three existing irrigation pumps with more energy efficient irrigation pumps. The installations would occur on existing infrastructure in a previously disturbed area and would require minimal ground disturbance.

On June 28, 2011, the Morrow County Planning Department determined the pump replacement associated with this project does not require a Floodplain Development Permit, because it is classified as a routine maintenance activity. Per the ODOE, County electrical permits are required for all VFD projects and will be secured by the electrical contractor prior to beginning work.

After review of the USFWS list of species, the proposed projects are not located in areas where threatened and endangered species are known to occur.

Based on this information, DOE has determined the replacement of energy efficient pumps and VFD's, which allow landowners to reduce electrical consumption for irrigation water pumping, is consistent with activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B5.1 (actions to conserve energy).

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 :

Cristina Tyler 10.17.2011

DOE Funding: $30,000
Total Project Cost: $50,000

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 10/17/11
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