PMC-EF2a
(2.06.02)

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

**RECIPIENT:** Cortland County Business Development Corporation **STATE:** NY

**PROJECT TITLE :** Energy Independent Agri-Business Outreach

| Funding Opportunity Announcement Number | Procurement Instrument Number | NEPA Control Number | CID Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| DE-E0003110 | EE0003110 | GFO-10-573 | 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:

**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.

**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:

Cortland County Business Development Corporation (CCBDC) would create and publicize a showcase of energy-independence for small farms through multi-tiered use of small-scale renewable energy equipment, enabling an agri-business (Hunter & Hilsberg), and a farm (Heidelberry Farms), to function 24/7 completely off-grid. This would be used for education, outreach, and demonstration for implementing practical small-scale renewable energy solutions at farms throughout the northeast.

The project consists of four tasks with sub-tasks.
1.0 Energy Specification and Design – energy consumption needs/analysis, site evaluation, partner identification, and system design.
2.0 Equipment Installation and Maintenance
3.0 Outreach Activities – website development, on-site and off-site public engagement
4.0 Project Management and Reporting - Reports and other deliverables will be provided in accordance with the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist following the instructions included therein.

A building permit from the Town of Scott has been obtained that allows for building activities to occur within a one acre area in approximately the center of the 40 acre farmstead.

This project is comprised of information gathering, data analysis, document preparation, and actions to conserve energy through small-scale renewable energy research and development; therefore the DOE has categorized this proposal into Categorical Exclusions A9 and B5.1.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

EF2a prepared by Casey Strickland

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 9/1/10

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