PMC-EF2a

(2/04/02)

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

RECIPIENT: State of Louisiana - Louisiana Department of Natural Resources **STATE:** LA

PROJECT TITLE : ARRA EECBG - State of Louisiana - Livingston Parish (French Settlement)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000013	DE-EE0000735	GFO-0000735-006	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:

B5.1 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:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has granted the State of Louisiana a formula grant under the DOE's Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program. Louisiana administers the EECBG Program and can select cities and counties to receive pass-through EECBG funding. Louisiana selected Livingston Parish to receive $333,000.00 in EECBG funding for the removal of existing indoor and outdoor HVAC equipment, the installation of new programmable thermostats, and installation of a 10 ton geothermal closed-loop system. The proposed project is located at the Village of French Settlement Town Hall, 16015 Hwy 16, French Settlement, Louisiana 70733.

The installation of the GSHP consists of 10, 4½ inch diameter holes drilled to a 250 foot depth. The disturbance area for the GSHP would be 15' by 40'. The system will have two layers of separation between the refrigerant and the aquifer. The refrigerant for the indoor unit will transfer heat to the geothermal working fluid, water, through a non-contact heat exchanger. The working fluid will transfer heat to the well using the 10 piped bores to create non-contact exchanger array. There would be a trench connecting the pipes of the system and connecting the system to the building. The trench would be approximately 50' by 3' for connection to the building. The total area of disturbance for the entire GSHP would be approximately 750 square feet. The GSHP installation will follow guidelines of the IGSHP Association and the NGWA recommendations for Closed Loop Systems and the Well Driller will follow Louisiana well drilling regulations (LA DNR form).

The DOE has determined that this project is not likely to adversely impact historic or cultural resources. The system, once installed, will not be viewable from a public right of way and the grounds have been extensively disturbed due to past tree clearing, lawn maintenance, and the recent construction of a warehouse on the property. The upgrade/replacement of the HVAC unit and installation of programmable thermostats is an exempted activity in Louisiana's Programmatic Agreement for expedited SHPO review.

The proposed project is consistent with the activities contained in DOE categorical exclusion B5.1 – Actions to Conserve Energy. Therefore, DOE has determined that the proposed project is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX B5.1.

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.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:
Should any cultural resources be unexpectedly discovered during the installation of the GSHP, the sub-recipient shall cease work and contact their Project Officer at the U.S. Department of Energy and the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer.

Note to Specialist :

Prepared by Melissa Rossiter.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 9/23/2011
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