PMC-EF2a
(2.06.02)

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

RECIPIENT: New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department **STATE:** NM

PROJECT TITLE: SEP ARRA - City of Socorro Public Access CNG Fueling Station

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	DE-EE0000108	GFO-0000108-006	EE108

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.

B2.5 Safety and environmental improvements of a facility, including replacement and upgrade of facility components, that do not result in a significant change in the expected useful life, design capacity, or function of the facility and during which operations may be suspended and then resumed. Improvements may include, but are not limited to: Replacement/upgrade of control valves, in-core monitoring devices, facility air filtration systems, or substation transformers or capacitors; addition of structural bracing to meet earthquake standards and/or sustain high wind loading; and replacement of aboveground or belowground tanks and related piping if there is no evidence of leakage, based on testing that meets performance requirements in 40 CFR part 280, subpart D (40 CFR part 280.40). This includes activities taken under RCRA, subtitle I; 40 CFR part 265, subpart J; 40 CFR part 280, subparts B, C, and D; and other applicable state, Federal and local requirements for underground storage tanks. These actions do not include rebuilding or modifying substantial portions of a facility, such as replacing a reactor vessel.

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide $150,000 in SEP funding to the New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department, sub-recipient New Mexico State Energy Office, to upgrade an existing CNG fueling station located at 3000 Old US Highway 85, Socorro, New Mexico 87801 (Latitude 34.023090°, Longitude-106.895671°).

The proposed project would consist of upgrading the existing CNG public access fueling station as well as installing a new, back-up (non-public access) CNG fueling system. All work would be completed on a previously disturbed, hard-pack parking area. Total footprint of the proposed work would be 160 square-feet.

DOE funding would be used to refurbish the existing, public access CNG fueling system:
- Rebuild Ingersoll-Rand 3,000 psig, 30 CFM compressor
- Inspect and recertify 3,000 psig storage containers (20 DOT bottle basket)
- Repair card reader circuit board
- Enclose sides on the compressor storage facility (8 feet X 14 feet)
- Fence public access fueling station area for 24-hour customer accessibility (120 feet X 70 feet X120 feet)
- Install signs directing customers to public access fueling stations
- Install two light poles to illuminate public access facility

DOE funding would be used to install a new, back-up CNG fueling system:
- Install two concrete pads for 3,600 psig storage containers (4 feet X 8 feet and 4 feet X 4 feet)
- 40 foot trench for low-pressure natural gas pipe from source to compressor
- 15 foot trench for 240 volt electrical connection from adjacent building
- Install 4 tine-fill posts, 2 hoses/post, in parking lot adjacent to CNG Back-up Station
- Install gate to enclose non-public access 3,600 psig fueling site

Currently, the City of Socorro CNG system is supplied by an existing, 30 psig, underground natural gas supply line. The new, 3,600 psig CNG fueling station, which would be located 100 feet northwest of the existing fueling station,

would be connected to the existing supply line. A 40 foot trench connecting the existing supply line to the new fueling station would be required. A smaller, 15 foot trench would be dug for a 240 volt electrical connection, which would connect the new system to the conduit of the existing system. Two concrete pads would be poured and leveled (4 feet X 4 feet and 4 feet X 8 feet). Two above-ground, cylinder CNG storage tanks would be installed on the new concrete pads. A new perimeter fence would be installed to separate the public access fueling station from the non-public access fueling station. Two light poles would be installed to better illuminate the public access fueling station.

Unlike a liquid fueling station, CNG is considered to be less dense than air and, thus, quickly disperses when released into the atmosphere. For this reason, a spill containment plan does not exist. Instead, the system would have safety shut-off valves in case of a leak or emergency.

The City of Socorro public access CNG fueling station is located approximately two miles south of Socorro. The facility is located next to the Socorro Municipal Airport and the Socorro Animal Shelter. The proposed project is located in the parking lot of the City of Socorro's Gas Utility Headquarters, which is within Town of Socorro Land grant, Township 3 South, Range 1 West. Existing roadways are sufficient for construction traffic and no new roadways would be required to complete the proposed project.

After review of the USFWS Wetland mapper and a FEMA floodplain map, the proposed site is not located in a wetland or floodplain. Threatened and endangered species are known to occur in the area. But because all work would be completed on a previously disturbed, hard-pack parking area and because the total footprint is 160 square-feet, impacts to threatened and endangered species are not anticipated.

On August 23, 2011, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) determined "the project will have No Effect on Historic Properties."

Installation of this equipment would displace liquid transportation fuels with domestically produced CNG. Based on this information, DOE has determined that the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B2.5 (replacement of above-ground tanks and related piping) and 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 9.28.2011

DOE Funding: $150,000
Total Project Cost: $150,000

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 9/29/11
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: _____