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PMC-EF2a
(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: Cedar Falls Utilities

STATE: IA

PROJECT TITLE : Biomass Energy Generation Project

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
CDP	DE-EE0000398	GFO-10-035	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).

Rational for determination:

Under this CDP award, Cedar Falls Utilities (CFU) will purchase and transport biomass feedstocks to their Cedar Falls Utilities Streater Station power plant in Cedar Falls, IA. The feedstocks will be combusted within an existing electric generation unit. They will conduct a (ten day duration) test burn to determine the compatibility of the combustion of biofuels in a stoker fired Electric Generation Unit originally designed to burn coal.

CFU has acquired a variance in their operating permit from the State of Iowa Department of Natural Resources (see attached copy) to conduct this activity. They have also supplied DOE with an R&D questionnaire that addresses the conditions in the facility where activities will take place.

This project comprises of research and development activities in an established facility; therefore a CX B3.6 will apply.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: [Signature]
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 11/30/09

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: _____
Field Office Manager

Date: _____



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

August 6, 2009

Ed Olthoff
Cedar Falls Utilities
PO Box 769
Utility Parkway
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

RE: Variance for performing test burns on four (4) different biomass fuels
Facility Number: 07-02-005

Dear Mr. Olthoff:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received a request from Cedar Falls Utilities (CFU) to do test burns of four (4) different biomass fuels in the facility's Unit #6 boiler. This variance request is approved with the following restrictions:

- CFU may perform one (1) four (4) hour tests for each of the following:
 - Cubed fuel – made of mixed prairie grasses
 - Pelletized fuel – made of agricultural residue
 - Large pellets – made of sugar cane bagasse
- CFU will conduct a ten (10) day test of corn stalks per the configuration (cubed, pelletized, or large pellets) of which short test run was deemed the most successful
- All of these test runs may be performed between **August 15, 2009** and **March 31, 2010**
- CFU must keep records of each test run at the facility for at least five (5) years. These records shall include the date and duration of the test run, and the amount and type of fuel burned during the test run.
- During the ten (10) day test of corn stalks test burn, CFU must conduct stack testing for the following pollutants:

Pollutant	Test Run Time	Test Method
PM ₁₀	TBD	40 CFR 51, Appendix M, 201A with 202
Opacity	1 hour	40 CFR 60, Appendix A, Method 9
NO _x	1 hour	40 CFR 60, Appendix A, Method 7E
CO	1 hour	40 CFR 60, Appendix A, Method 10

Each emissions test must be approved by the DNR. Unless otherwise specified by the DNR, each test shall consist of three separate runs. The test methods and run times to be used are those stated above unless otherwise approved by the DNR.

A pretest meeting shall be held at a mutually agreeable site no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of each test. Representatives from the DNR shall attend this meeting, along with the owner and the testing firm, if any. It shall be the responsibility of the owner to coordinate and schedule the pretest meeting. The owner shall be responsible for the installation and maintenance of test ports. Please contact Mark Stone of the DNR at 515-242-6001 to schedule the pretest meeting.

CFU shall submit a written stack test report to the DNR postmarked no later than forty-five (45) days after the completion of the test period

- If the DNR receives any justifiable complaints regarding emissions during any of the test periods, we may require you to immediately terminate the test run.
- CFU shall notify DNR Field Office 1 of equipment start-up at least 24 hours prior to starting each test burn. The phone number for Field Office 1 is 563-927-2640.
- If opacity limits are exceeded for brief periods during the test burns. These excess emissions should be reported to DNR Field Office 1 according to the same procedures CFU has followed for previous incidences of excess emissions.

The decision for this approval was based on information provided in your variance request dated June 29, 2009. Please be aware this is only a variance to operate the Unit #6 boiler with an alternate fuel (biomass) without obtaining the required construction permit. All other regulations and rules still apply.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me at (515) 281-4918 or by email at reid.bermel@dnr.iowa.gov.

Sincerely,



Reid Bermel
Compliance Assistance Section, Air Quality Bureau

c: Field Office 1 – DNR Field Services & Compliance Bureau