



PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: Texas Tech University

STATE: TX

PROJECT TITLE : Great Plains Wind Power Test Facility

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
CDP	DE-FG36-06GO86092	GFO-06-126 -001	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:

- B3.1** Onsite and offsite site characterization and environmental monitoring, including siting, construction (or modification), operation, and dismantlement or closing (abandonment) of characterization and monitoring devices and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis. Activities covered include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:
- 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.
- 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.

Rational for determination:

This is a renewal for an existing project that received a CX B5.1 on 8/30/1996.

The objectives of the project are to continue development of a nationally-recognized facility for the testing, characterization and improvement of grid-connected wind turbines and integrated wind-water desalination systems, and to provide education and outreach on these topics.

DOE and cost-share funding will be used to continue testing, characterization, system optimization and demonstration of grid-connected, utility-scale wind turbines designed for wind regimes such as those of the Southern Great Plains and integrated wind-water desalination systems. Funding will not be used to construct or install any wind systems as part of this project.

Activities will involve information gathering; field data collection activities from wind systems; maintaining and updating wind data acquisition equipment on the existing 200-m met tower and horizontal array at Reese Technology Center; operation and maintenance of wind turbine and reverse osmosis desalination systems; and outreach conferences and educational tool development.

This project comprises information gathering, outreach activities, field monitoring and actions to conserve energy; therefore a CX A9, B3.1 and B5.1 will apply.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

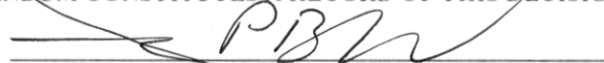
Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Assurances from the PI for this project stated that they would not be using DOE or cost-share funding for installation of wind and RO systems that will be studied as part of this project; therefore this type of activity should not be seen as allowable for invoicing.

As a precautionary statement: Prohibited actions will include construction, capitol equipment purchase and final design activities for wind turbine and RO systems with DOE and cost share funding. Technical assistance and operational activities are allowable.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer 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: _____