

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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

**RECIPIENT:**City of North Little Rock (Electric Department)**STATE:** AR

PROJECT TITLE : Recovery Act:NLR Hydroelectric Department Hydroelectric Facility Improvement Project: Automated Intake Clearing Equipment and Material; Management

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000120	DE-EE0002674	GFO-10-140	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.

Rational for determination:

The City of North Little Rock's Electrical department would use DOE ARRA funding to research, purchase and install an automated intake clearing devise, a large wood grinder and associated equipment for their hydroelectric generation facility. This facility is located at the Murray Lock and Dam #7, on the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The purpose of the intake maintenance device is to continuously keep the intake channel clear of the often heavy volume of debris that comes downstream. The proposed wood grinder will receive the tree limbs, tree trunks, and other organic debris removed by the intake maintenance device. The organic debris will then be mulched, thereby eliminating the current practice of periodic burning of the waste material cleared from the intake system.

North Little Rock Electrical department will also ensure that all applicable environmental regulations and Corps of Engineers requirements are observed throughout the period of performance. Their FERC permit is current and had been renewed in 1983 for an additional 50 years.

Project tasks include:

- 1.0 Conceptual Design
- 2.0 Engineering Design
- 3.0 Procurement Advertisement
- 4.0 Procurement Selection
- 5.0 Equipment Installation
- 6.0 Personnel Orientation
- 7.0 Project Management & Reporting

Tasks 1 – 3 involve researching then selection of the type of intake cleaning system which will be appropriate at the facility. After the system is chosen, necessary design modifications will be made to allow incorporation with the facility's existing intake channel.

Task 4 involves developing, putting out and evaluating applications of an RFP for the intake cleaning system construction and installation process.

Tasks 5-6 involve the purchase and installation of the system and related equipment. Training of the personal would then take place to explain operation, safety and maintenance procedures.

Tasks 1-4 and 7 involve information gathering and preliminary design work; therefore a CX A9 will apply.

Tasks 5-6 involve construction and installation of an intake cleaning system and subsequent operational training. Detailed information regarding this construction and installation process is unknown at this time; therefore a NEPA determination cannot be made and these tasks are conditioned pending further review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Tasks 5 and 6; including, but not limited to, capital equipment purchases, final design, earth moving, site prep, installation and construction activities pending further NEPA review.

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Tasks 1-4 and 7

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

Submit an additional EF1 regarding specific activities associated with Tasks 5-6

Note to Specialist :

Tasks 5 and 6 of this project has NEPA conditions pending the submission of additional project information, NEPA recommends the recipient's funding be placed on ASAP approval.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Justin Kern
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 01/28/2010

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: _____