

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division (DBA Tacoma Power) **STATE:** WA

PROJECT TITLE : Cushman North Fork Skokomish Powerhouse

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000120	DE-EE0002669	GFO-10-269	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:

This project will focus on the design and construction a new North Fork Skokomish Powerhouse, which will include an integral fish collection facility and fish handling and sorting device. The new powerhouse, which will produce about 23,500 megawatts hours of energy, increasing electrical generation capacity by 14%, requires design, engineering and construction. A fish transport system will be included as part of the design, which will allow federally listed salmonids and trout that are swimming upstream to be trapped, sorted, and then released in the upper river.

Proposed tasks include:

Task 1.0 Turbine/Generator Procurement and Installation
Task 2.0 Powerhouse General Construction Contract
Task 3.0 Transmission Design and Construction
Task 4.0 Fish Facilities Design and Construction
Task 5.0 Project Management and Reporting

At this time, the recipient is in a preliminary phase for this project and the proposed action requires a FERC amendment as well as several other federal, state and local permits. DOE funds will only be used to support administrative activities, conducting studies and assessments and preliminary engineering activities; therefore a CX A9 applies.

Once preliminary engineering and designs are prepared, the recipient may provide additional information and a NEPA determination review for those activities may be conducted.

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:

Construction, earthmoving, purchasing of equipment, final engineering plans and design

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Administrative activities, conducting studies and assessments and preliminary engineering activities.

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 and all supplemental information addressing construction, equipment procurement and installment, final design, fish passage systems and government agency consultations.

The following permit information and determinations must also be submitted:

- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission - License Amendment
- Corps of Engineers - Section 404 Permit
- Washington Dept of Ecology - Section 401 Water Quality Certification
- Washington Dept of Ecology - Coastal Zone Management Act Determination of Consistency
- Washington Dept of Ecology - Water Right
- Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife - Hydraulic Project Approval
- Mason County - State Shoreline Management Act Substantial Development Approval

Note to Specialist :

This project contains NEPA conditions placed on construction, equipment purchase, and final design activities; only administrative actions (A9 activities) are allowed under this review. NEPA recommend that this project be placed on ASAP approval.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:


NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

3/21/10

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:
