

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: City of Houston

STATE: TX

PROJECT TITLE : ARRA SEP City of Houston Mobile Solar

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number Procurement Instrument Number NEPA Control Number CID Number
GO0

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.
- B1.15** Siting, construction (or modification), and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; employee health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (including security posts); fire protection; and similar support purposes, but excluding facilities for waste storage activities, except as provided in other parts of this appendix.

Rational for determination:

The State of Texas will provide \$1,352,525 in Recovery Act funding to the City of Houston for the purchase of 25 mobile solar generators of approximately 7-8 kw size. The systems are similar in nature to those used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As mobile sources of electrical power, the generators will provide the city with needed on-site power when emergencies arise. When not on emergency calls, the generators will be stationed at designated fire stations where they will hook into the station's electrical system to provide power to the station and thus off-set some of the station's electricity costs. The mobile solar generators can be purchased as off-the-shelf systems. The city is proposing the possible purchase of two mobile generator types, one that can fit on a trailer sized for SUV haulage and the second that is a self-contained mobile system about the size of a medical trailer.

In view of the information provided by the State, that the project involves actions to implement energy conservation and promote energy-efficiency, I have determined that the project is classified as Categorical Exclusion B1.15 and B5.1.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

According to State of Texas officials, funding for this project is \$1,352,525. Unless the scope of this effort changes significantly, a change in funding will not affect my determination.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

Date: 3/29/10

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: _____
Field Office Manager

Date: _____

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as described in the attached documents, I have determined that the proposed action falls within the following category:

Category 1 (C1): Actions to conserve energy, eliminate wasteful energy consumption, and promote energy efficiency that do not increase the volume of construction or require the use of hazardous materials. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals such as business owners, engineers, organizations (such as utilities), and state and local governments. Covered actions include, but are not limited to, programmed lighting of commercial buildings, placement of mirrors on hot water heaters, installation of solar hot water systems, installation of efficient lighting, improvements to general lighting and appliance efficiency ratings, development of energy-efficient manufacturing or industrial practices, and energy audits and energy conservation and renewable energy research and development and pilot projects. The actions could involve building retrofits or new structures in commercial, residential, agricultural, or industrial sectors. These actions do not include the following: standards setting or proposed DOE legislation.

Category 2 (C2): Small construction for residential, educational, and government buildings and support structures including, but not limited to, tables and prefabricated buildings, within or contiguous to an already developed area (where actions utilize and currently used lands are mostly agricultural). Covered support buildings and structures include those for office and business services, education and training, water treatment, computer and data processing services, employee health services or recreation services, technical maintenance activities, storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and utility maintenance activities, security (including security posts), fire protection, and similar support purposes, but excluding facilities for waste storage activities, except as provided in other parts of this category.

The State of Texas will provide \$1,365,525 in recovery. Act funding to the City of Houston for the purchase of 25 mobile water generators of approximately 1.5-hp size. The system size exists in nature in flow used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As a mobile source of electrical power, the generator will provide the city with needed on-site power when emergency calls. When not on emergency calls, the generator will be stored at designated sites where they will hook into the station's electrical system to provide power to the station and this off-site power. The mobile unit generators can be purchased as off-the-shelf for SUV package and the second unit is a self-contained mobile system about the size of a medical trailer.

In view of the information provided by the State, that the project involves actions to implement energy conservation and promote energy efficiency, I have determined that the project is classified as Categorical Exclusion E1 10 and



