

PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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



RECIPIENT: Farm Power

STATE: WA

PROJECT
TITLE : Farm Power Lynden

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	EE0000139	GFO-09-155-009	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:

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.

Rational for determination:

The State of Washington will provide \$1,063,724 in Recovery Act funds to Farm Power Lynden, LLC (Farm Power) to install an anaerobic manure digester, a concrete receiving pit, a mechanical building and a covered storage area on a parcel of land owned by Van Wingerden Nursery in Lynden, Washington. The digester is to measure approximately 75x175 feet and rise 16 feet tall. A pre-engineered 50x40ft steel mechanical building that will hold a 750kW generator will sit next to the digester. There is also to be a 40x20ft covered area adjacent to the mechanical building for a collection truck and an in-ground concrete receiving tank.

The DOE funding is to be applied to the pre-construction, procurement, and installation of the anaerobic digester phase of the project. The pre-construction activities will include costs directly associated with construction such as surveying, permitting, site prep, and utilities installation to include direct cost associated with interconnecting with the electrical grid. Equipment procurement activities will include costs directly associated with the purchasing of items to be used in the construction and operation of the project. These are to include electrical control equipment, generators and switchgear, pumps, chillers, radiators, transformers, loader tractors, and trucks. The installation phase of the project will include earthwork, erection of the digester, installation of wiring and piping and physical interconnection with the electrical grid.

Even though DOE is not funding the entire project, the construction of the concrete receiving pit, the mechanical building, the covered storage area and all operations associated with these facilities and the anaerobic digester are being considered connected actions under NEPA. An environmental assessment (EA) for the Farm Power project was previously prepared by U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The scope of the EA includes the DOE-funded parts of the project. USDA received no comments as a result of the fifteen day public review process conducted for the EA and its Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). This public review was completed in mid-October, 2009.

Farm Power has since provided information to supplement the analysis in the EA. This includes answers to questions presented by DOE on the status of permitting efforts and answers to questions on air emissions and water quality impacts. Farm Power is required to obtain authorization to construct from the Northwest Clean Air Agency. The project will require a building permit from Whatcom County Planning and a development and construction stormwater permit from Washington State Department of Ecology.

In view of the USDA Environmental Assessment (EA), Farm Power's positive response to the USDA EA mitigation actions, Farm Power's positive response to Lynden's zoning commission requests, and Farm Power's response to inquiries forwarded by the DOE, this work can be categorically excluded under 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 the project officer, funding for this project is \$1,063,724. Unless there is a significant change in the scope of work or should conditions develop during construction of the digester and related structures that warrant further NEPA review, a change in funding will not affect my determination.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 4/30/10

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: _____