

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept.

STATE: NM

**PROJECT TITLE :** State of New Mexico ARRA Solar Projects

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000052		GFO-10-399	EE108

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 New Mexico is proposing to provide \$1,500,000 for the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at ten public schools throughout the State. The school districts were selected through a competitive process administered by the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED), with technical assistance from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD). Following is the list of the ten schools and the type of PV system to be installed:

1. Rio Rancho—Roof and Ground mounted
2. Gallup—Ground mounted
3. Moriarty—Ground mounted
4. Los Alamos—Ground mounted
5. Taos—Covered parking lot
6. Hatch—Ground mounted
7. Ruidoso—Roof mounted
8. Portales—Roof mounted
9. Corona—Roof mounted
10. Dulce—Roof and Ground mounted.

None of the PV systems is to exceed 50kW in size. The projects requiring roof mounting will be placed on buildings with roofs less than five years old and sized appropriately. None of the schools selected are of historical significance. Ground mounted systems will be placed on previously-disturbed land that is under control of the school district. Each school district has provided assurance that the site selected will not disturb cultural resources.

The State further assures DOE of compliance with requirements under the ARRA-SEP funding for hazardous materials disposal, Buy American, Davis-Bacon wage rates, and historic preservation. EMNRD's contracts to be established with the 10 school districts will require compliance as a condition of receiving the ARRA-SEP funding. All hazardous materials encountered at the sites or through implementing the PV systems will be handled and disposed of as required by state and federal regulations. The projects will comply with Buy American and Davis-Bacon wage rate requirements.

Based on the information provided by the State, the work outlined is consistent with provisions stated in the State Template for PV systems and with activities identified in Categorical Exclusion 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 \$1,500,000. Unless there is a significant change in the scope of this effort, 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: 6/2/10

**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: \_\_\_\_\_