

PMC-EF2a

(2.0+02)

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



RECIPIENT: State of Washington DE-EE0000139

STATE: WA

PROJECT
TITLE : FPE Renewables, LLC

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000139		EE139

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 Washington Department of Commerce will provide \$320,000 of Recovery Act funds to FPE Renewables, LLC to upgrade an existing anaerobic digester at Vander Haak Dairy in Lynden, Washington. This upgrade project will convert the digester from mesophilic operation to thermophilic operation. This conversion will require additional heat recovery capacity in a new genset, a collection pit to provide a more consistent feedstock mixture, and some mechanical and utility upgrades to accommodate the additional heat and electricity. This project will allow FPE Renewables to produce more gas from the same amount of inputs. The project will utilize the excess biogas for which the current generator does not have capacity. The work will be conducted on Haak Dairy property on previously disturbed land.

Recovery Act funds will be used primarily for construction services and equipment purchases. Major equipment purchases include the new biogas gen-set, inductor bank, and utility relay and breaker. Minor equipment purchases include pumps and mixers. The original anaerobic digester was exempt from air permitting requirements. The upgraded project may require a new source review permit from the Northwest Air Pollution Authority. FPE Renewables must comply with the requirements of any applicable air permit for the upgraded digester.

The original anaerobic digester installation was the subject of a USDA Environmental Assessment (EA) dated March 2004. The EA concluded that the project would not have significant impacts. The USDA has also prepared an EA (dated August 2009) for the upgraded digester project and it also concludes that the project would not have significant impacts. DOE has reviewed the USDA EAs and concurs with the findings.

Based on the information provided by the State and recipient, the work outlined is consistent 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:

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

The original anaerobic digester was exempt from air permitting requirements. The upgraded project may require a new source review permit from the Northwest Air Pollution Authority. FPE Renewables must comply with the requirements of any applicable air permit for the upgraded digester.

Note to Specialist :

According to the project officer, funding for this project is \$320,000. 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: _____ Date: 5/26/10
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: _____ Date: _____
Field Office Manager