

PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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



RECIPIENT: NREL

STATE: SD

PROJECT**TITLE :**

Gilt Edge Mine Wind Resource Assessment, NREL Tracking No. 10-009a

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
		NREL-10-009a	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:

B3.1 Onsite and offsite site characterization and environmental monitoring, including siting, construction (or modification), operation, and dismantlement or closing (abandonment) of characterization and monitoring devices and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis. Activities covered include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

Rational for determination:

This an update for NEPA determination NREL-10-009 signed 2/10/2010 as the proposed location of the met tower has changed. The scope of the proposed project remains the same and would be for a contract with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to install a meteorological (met) tower (60 meters high) at the Gilt Edge Superfund Site near Deadwood, South Dakota for 18 months. Data collected from the met tower anemometers, wind vanes and temperature and barometric sensors would be used for data collection, analyzing, and maintaining data.

This met site proposal falls within the boundaries of the Gilt Edge Superfund Site. However, the proposed met tower site is adjacent to the land previously disturbed by mining activity and is undisturbed with no soil contamination. A subcontractor would install the met tower at the new proposed location of 44deg 19min 52.022sec North; 103deg 40min 17.281sec West. The met tower system would be assembled onsite and mounted using an electric winch; therefore no cranes are required for installation. Data from anemometers, vanes, and temperature sensors would be collected with a data collector. No excavation is required for the met tower base, the anchor systems, or the electrical utilities. The met tower would be positioned on a 4'x 4' steel base plate secured by four anchor points using auger type anchors or rebar. Access to the site would be by existing roads and no ground disturbance would be required unless concrete anchor blocks are needed and they need to be set in the ground. (Then disturbance would be four 3-ft X 3-ft holes (36 sq ft) filled in with concrete.) No grading or clearing would be required. No utilities are needed to power the met tower so there will be no disturbance from excavating utility lines to the site.

Based on EPA's Cultural Resource Inventory and Assessment of the Gilt Edge Mine Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Site, the Second Programmatic Agreement Among the EPA, The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, The South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, South Dakota Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, Local Governments of Lawrence County, Lead, and Deadwood, and the Brohm Mining Company Regarding Implementation of the CERCLA Related Elements of the Gilt Edge Mine NPL Ecological Risk Assessment, and Final Remedial Investigation Report Gilt Edge Mine Volumes I and II dated Feb 1, 2008, no significant issues have been identified at site for this proposal. EPA indicates that no new permits are needed for the proposal; no generation of air emissions or hazardous waste. The EPA indicates that birds are not an issue associated with the proposal. However, bird diverters will be used on the guy wires as a precaution as recommended by EPA.

Based on the information above and EPA's recommendation to DOE to approve this proposal (2/5/2010), this project's impacts to the human and natural environment can be deemed less than significant and this project will qualify for Categorical Exclusion B3.1.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

EF2A prepared by Rob Smith

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Lori Plummer *Lori Plummer* Date: 6/21/2010
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