

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: Qteros, Inc

STATE: MA

PROJECT TITLE : Industrial & Agricultural Waste to Clean Fuel: Qteros Facility for Development of Methods for Preparing Biomass for Hydrolysis and Fermentation into Cellulosic Ethanol

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
CDP	DE-EE-0000564	GFO-10-409	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:

- A9** Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring.
- B3.6** Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of facilities for indoor bench-scale research projects and conventional laboratory operations (for example, preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); small-scale research and development projects; and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than two years) conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions. Construction (or modification) will be within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

Rational for determination:

Qteros Inc. proposes to use federal funds to develop and optimize a fermentation process for cellulosic biomass conversion to ethanol. This process would work in combination with the unique set of naturally-occurring organisms developed by Qteros. The federal funds would also be used to scale up that optimized process in a pilot plant to demonstrate the technology on a scale of 1,000 liter reactors, followed by scale-up to 2500 liters. The project also includes preliminary engineering activities for the biomass pretreatment process design.

Qteros has constructed a new pilot facility (outside of the scope of this project) that (as part of this project) will be outfitted with new pilot scale equipment and operated. Initial project tasks will be completed at an existing R & D facility and an existing interim pilot scale facility until the new facility is fully equipped.

The interim pilot and R&D facilities in Marlborough, MA both have certificates of occupancy and liquid effluents not permitted by the City of Marlborough waste water permit are collected, stored on-site, and disposed of by a contract service. The pilot facility in Chicopee, MA has a certificate of occupancy and a waste water permit.

An R & D questionnaire has been submitted which thoroughly address safety and chemical protocols. This project includes information gathering, conventional research and development in existing facilities and modification and operation of a small scale pilot facility, therefore CX A9 & B3.6 apply.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

eugene brown 6/8/2010

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Kristin Kerwin
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 7/14/2010

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: _____