

PMC-EF2a

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



(20402)

RECIPIENT: University of Florida

STATE: FL

PROJECT TITLE : Florida Renewable Energy Program

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
CDP	DE-FG36-08GO88142	GFO-09-098-002	GO88142

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:

**B3.6** 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:**

Florida University (FU) would use DOE funds to support the work of graduate students, post-docs and technicians for the conversion of lignocellulosic feedstocks into ethanol. The location of the laboratory work would be at the FU campus in Gainesville, Florida and does not require any construction permits. This review is part of an annual review/renewal process for FU.

All work associated with this project will take place in laboratories on the University of Florida campus at bench or pilot scales. The university has safety protocol in place for the lab space and a training program in place for personnel. All chemicals and gasses will be handled in accordance to the Chemical Hygiene Plan (OSHA). Hazardous waste disposal is provided by UF Environmental Health and Safety.

According to FU, the Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) (non pathogenic recombinant microbial organisms) used in this study are subject to the National Institute of Health (NIH) requirements under Section III-D-6, appendix K-II. This covers the transport, storage, handling, and disposal of the organisms. All organisms are BL-1 or below. These are stored at -80C and killed before disposal either by autoclaving, heating, addition of caustic, or by the addition of bleach. There would be no release of live organisms. This study has been approved by UF r DNA oversight committee.

This project comprises indoor bench-scale research projects and conventional laboratory operations therefore is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX 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.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Kristin Kerwin Date: 8/26/2010  
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