

FMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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



RECIPIENT: California Energy Commission

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : SEP-ARRA: Soliant Energy 40 MW Solar Manufacturing Plant

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000221	GFO-10-627	EE221

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:

Soliant Energy is proposing to use \$2,089,711 to purchase equipment to expand their current CSP (Concentrated Solar Power) manufacturing plant. Soliant will be acquiring a receiver assembly element, a module assembly element, and a panel assembly element.

The building footprint will not be expanded and there is no new construction being performed to incorporate this manufacturing expansion. With the increase in equipment at the facility, there will be an increased electricity need. Soliant states that the existing transformer and wiring can provide 2000A without significant rework. Their current plans call for 1000A draw, with possible expansions increasing that to 1600A. There is ample space in the existing underground conduit between the building and the transformer pad for additional wiring, and the pad is only 5' away from the building.

The project requires local building permits.

This project is consistent with activities outlined in B5.1; therefore, it is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

The recipient is required to obtain the necessary permits for all actions involved in the proposed project

Note to Specialist :

This EF-2A was completed by Logan Sholar on 9-20-10

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

9/20/10