



PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: The University of Texas at El Paso

STATE: TX

PROJECT TITLE : Computational Analysis of Nanoparticles-Molten Salt Thermal Energy Storage for Concentrated Solar Power Systems

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000089	DE-EE0004008	GFO-10-613	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.

Rational for determination:

The University of Texas at El Paso proposes to use federal funds to develop a computational model to design efficient thermal energy storage systems. UTEP will develop research and educational capabilities in solar energy technology related research.

This project will include performance of eulerian granular modeling for thermal energy storage; perform molecular dynamics modeling with large scale atomic/molecular massively parallel simulator; carry out computational analysis of nano-partical mixing on the thermal energy storage medium's heat capacity; verification and validation with experimental data; develop the solar energy course curriculum to be taught each spring; organization of summer trip to Texas A&M and NREL; Organize summer workshop on solar energy resources (K-12); and project management and reporting.

This project will be comprised of computer modeling, information gathering, and dissemination to include development of an educational program; therefore a CX A9 will 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 9/20/2010

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Kristin Kerwin
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 9/22/2010

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION