



PMC-EF2a

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



(2.04.02)

RECIPIENT: WA Dept. of Commerce

STATE: WA

PROJECT TITLE : Venoil Bio-Refinery

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number DE-FOA-0000052	Procurement Instrument Number DE-EE0000139	NEPA Control Number GFO-09-155-016	CID Number 0
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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:

The Washington Department of Commerce is proposing to use ARRA funding for the purchase and installation of a skid mounted glycerin distillation system at an existing industrial facility. The existing facility is a biodiesel manufacturing facility which is being developed and converted into a biodiesel refinery and glycerin recycling facility. The glycerin recycling facility will use by-products from existing biodiesel plants and other currently unusable materials and refine them into high quality glycerin and co-products. The system will process crude glycerin into technical grade glycerin, and separate salts, partially reacted triglycerides, alkylated esters, methanol, and water. The new system will not be creating a new product or chemicals but rather recycling a mixture of a byproduct left over from the production of biodiesel and separating them into renewable commodities. The glycerin will be purified to a technical grade non-toxic substance well regarded in the commodities market. The methanol will be sold back to the biodiesel producers as recycled methanol. The water being distilled will be used at the facility. The un-reacted vegetable oil will be used as the feedstock to make a bio-fuel for energy recovery back into a low pressure Johnstone oil heater. The salts will be purified into an organic nutrient for feed and fertilizer. The overall project includes site preparation, storage, material handling, testing, and quality assurance around glycerin purification and energy recovery.

The glycerin distillation system is designed to be easily integrated with the existing facility. This integration calls for plumbing, electrical, and distribution to be coupled with the existing structure, steam lines, and tank storage. The equipment will be mechanically integrated into the facility by connecting the needed plumbing to tanks that store raw material and finished product. Pumps and valves will be electrically integrated into the facility with various electrical wiring and communications cable. The system will be installed on a 50 x 50 foot existing concrete pad under the facility's existing permits. A 50 x 50 foot steel canopy and building will be assembled to house the system, and all activities for this project will take place in an interior location. Detailed drawings will be provided to the local fire marshal as required.

Consultation was sought from the State of Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and concurrence was obtained that no historic properties will be affected by this project. The recipient confirms that the system and equipment will not produce water emissions or new air emissions. There will be no ground disturbance since the project is planned for an existing and heavily industrialized site.

Based on the above information, these actions are categorically excluded under CX number B5.1 "actions to conserve energy."

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

EF-2a prepared by Neil Sullivan.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____



NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

9/21/10

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: _____