

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: California Energy Commission

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : SEP ARRA: Solaria PV Manufacturing Facility

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	DE-EE0000221	GFO-10-620	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:

The Solaria Corporation (Solaria) will be using \$753,992.00 of federal ARRA-SEP funds awarded from the California Energy Commission to purchase a Glass Scanner and a PV Assembly Machine. The \$753,992.0 in funding will expand the solar photovoltaic module plant to an annual production capacity of 6 MW. Equipment to be purchased includes high-speed glass scanning equipment and PV Assembly stringer equipment.

The City of Fremont's Planning Division determined that Solaria's new manufacturing facility does not constitute a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has issued Solaria a Ministerial Exemption from CEQA. Attached is the Notice of Exemption (NOE) prepared by the City of Fremont, CA, and filed with the Alameda, CA County Clerk's Office.

Solaria will be installing the new PV manufacturing equipment in an existing building and will not be expanding the building's footprint.

No new permits are required for the project.

There will not be any notable waste streams generated from the project.

The proposed project is consistent with activities outlined in B5.1; therefore it has been categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

Note to Specialist :

EF-2A completed by Logan Sholar.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 10/8/2010**FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION**