

PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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



RECIPIENT: New River Valley Regional Jail Authority

STATE: VA

PROJECT TITLE : New River Solar Thermal Hot Water Project

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000013	DE-EE0000864	GFO-0000864-008	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:

**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 Virginia State Energy Office proposes to use EECBG funding to pay for renewable energy projects with local government entities in Virginia. There are two projects: One is covered by the signed and executed NEPA template, the other is a solar thermal project with the New River Regional Jail Authority. Since this facility would not qualify as small commercial entity, a separate NEPA clearance for the project is needed.

The Virginia SEO proposes to use \$428,000 of EECBG funding towards the installation of a 35,200 Therms/year solar thermal hot water system to serve the New River Regional Jail Authority. The system will heat approximately 2,700,000 gallons of hot water per year for the facilities' use, which comprises approximately 30% of their overall hot water consumption. Installation of this system will produce and energy savings of approximately 3,520 Btu/year resulting in an approximate energy savings of \$87,300 annually.

The proposed solar collector array will be roof mounted on the north side of the existing jail facility, encompassing approximately 3,600 square feet of the facility roof. This facility has recently gone under various renovations and expansions and is fully capable of supporting the proposed solar thermal hot water system. No changes to the existing building footprint will be necessary and the proposed system will not be grid connected.

Building permits and Erosion and Sediment Control Permits may be required from the Town of Dublin, VA and will be obtained by the recipient prior to the start of project activities.

There would be no impacts to any biological, cultural, visual, or other sensitive resources as a result of the proposed project.

Based on the above information, this project is categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX number B 5.1, 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 :

Completed by Bill Knapp 12/9/10

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*12/14/10*

**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: \_\_\_\_\_