

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: IL Dept. of Commerce &amp; Economic Opportunity

STATE: IL

**PROJECT TITLE :** Galesburg Water Plant Solar Photovoltaic Project

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000119	GFO-0000119-062	EE119

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 proposed project is comprised of (1) array consists of 48 modules and (7) arrays of 72 modules. The arrays will be ground mounted on concrete piers with a typical array having six peers per array. The proposed system would produce approximately 130kW-160kW at peak production. The proposed site is on Galesburg's water pumping plant located to the east of the sludge lagoon (40°55'5.83"N, 90°57'3.73"W). Water treatment plant site is zoned for industrial use in Henderson County. The area was previously disturbed when the new water pumping plant was constructed. The approximate area that would be temporarily disturbed is 150' x 300' for the construction, with the final project being approximately 150' x 185'. The area was graded and leveled during the construction of the facility and would require minimal soil disturbance, the only other land disturbance would be caused by the need for small boring required for the system's piers. The excess dirt from the pilings for each array installation will be re-graded in accordance to the Cities requirements, no permit is required. The proper precautions will be taken to secure the area, so that the excess dirt would not run off into the outlining ditches located on the east side of the array location (silt fences, hay bales, etc.). All materials that can be recycled will be categorized by material type (card board, steel, aluminum etc.) at the site and hauled to the local recycling center. Any other material that can't be recycled will be placed in dumpsters located on site and then disposed of in the proper area as per City requirements. There will be no onsite storage of the energy generated; all electricity can be utilized by the waste water treatment, any additional electricity generated will be fed back into the grid.

The proposed project is not located within an existing floodplain or wetland. No trees will be removed and the proposed area has been previously disturbed, DOE has therefore determined that the proposed Solar Energy Project would have no effect on T&E species listed in Henderson County, IL. The nearest airport to the proposed project is located 6 miles east of the location, no impacts to air transportation are expected due to glare. Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) was previously consulted for both the previously proposed Wind Energy Project at this site, and on the new water treatment plant project itself at this site. IHPA has concluded that, "in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected."

DOE has determined that the proposed Solar Energy Project would not have a significant impact to the human health and/or environment and no extraordinary circumstances exist. This project is hereby Categorical Excluded under 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 :

EF2a completed by John Jediny

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:   
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 3/16/11

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