

PMC-EF2a

(201002)

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

**RECIPIENT:**South Jersey Economic Development District**STATE:** NJ**PROJECT TITLE :** South Jersey Wind Turbine

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
CDP	DE-EE0003282	GFO-0003282-001	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 South Jersey Economic Development District is proposing to use Congressionally Directed Federal Funding to undertake two wind turbine development projects on publicly owned land along the coastal area of southern New Jersey. The proposed project comprises two separate initiatives; a mid-sized wind turbine installation at the Penns Grove Sewer Authority property and a feasibility and site analysis at a former city landfill site in Sea Isle City.

Tasks include:

Penns Grove Project -

Task 1: Engineering Analysis
 Subtask 1.1 Engineering Analysis (desktop)
 Subtask 1.2 Geotechnical (field) Studies
 Subtask 1.3 Environmental Analysis (desktop)
 Task 2: Preliminary Design
 Task 3: Final Design Bid Documents
 Task 4: Construction Phase
 Task 5: Project Close

Sea Isle City Project -

Task 6: Perform Site Suitability Analysis
 Subtask 6.1 Engineering Analysis (desktop)
 Subtask 6.2 Geotechnical (field) Studies
 Task 7: Data Analysis (desktop)
 Task 8: Strategy Development
 Task 9: Project Management and Administrative

Tasks 1.2 and 6.2 involve geotechnical studies and the proposed installation of a met tower and/or anemometer. Specific task activities and sites have not yet been defined; therefore a final NEPA determination cannot be made. These tasks are unallowable pending additional information and a final DOE NEPA determination.

Tasks 3, 4 and 5 involve the final design and construction of a mid-sized wind turbine at the Penns Grove Sewer Authority property. Environmental impacts related to the proposed construction of the wind turbines have not been analyzed. These tasks are therefore unallowable pending additional DOE review and final NEPA determination.

Tasks 1.1, 1.3, 2, 6.1, 7, 8, and 9 involve preliminary design, data gathering, data analysis and project management activities for both proposed project initiatives. DOE has determined that impacts related to these tasks will have negligible or no effects on the human and natural environment. These tasks are consistent with actions outlined in categorical exclusion A9 (information gathering, data analysis, dissemination) and are, therefore, categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

All activities being performed under:

Tasks 1.2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.2

DOE or cost-share funds are not authorized for final design, capital equipment purchase(s), site preparations/ground disturbances, wind turbine construction, or any final interconnection agreements prior to a NEPA analysis being completed on the above prohibited tasks.

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Task 1.1, 1.3, 2, 6.1, 7, 8, and 9

South Jersey Economic Development District is authorized to initiate preliminary engineering and environmental studies by using DOE and cost-share funds to hire engineering and environmental contractors. Authorized work is limited to desk-top research and planning activities only.

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

The recipient shall submit an EF-1 for the restricted activities when sufficient information is available for DOE to complete the NEPA determination.

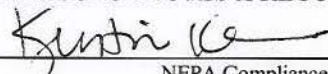
Note to Specialist :

This project consists of tasks that are prohibited pending addition NEPA review. Please place this CDP on ASAP approval.

Review completed by Laura Margason 5/16/2011

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:



NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

5/17/2011

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