

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: Luther College

STATE: CO

PROJECT TITLE : Integrated Renewable Energy and Campus Sustainability Initiative (Revised May 24, 2011)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
2010 CDP	DE-EE0003271	GFO-0003271-002	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.
- 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.
- B3.6** Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of facilities for indoor bench-scale research projects and conventional laboratory operations (for example, preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); small-scale research and development projects; and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than two years) conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions. Construction (or modification) will be within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

Rational for determination:

Luther College has proposed a change in scope from the original NEPA determination (gfo-10-351). This determination will analyze environmental impacts of the installation of a solar array and energy efficiency retrofits to 2 dormitories.

Retrofits at Luther College will take place in/on Miller & Dieseth Halls. This will entail replacement windows in Miller Hall. Installation of new track guided window treatments, replace 414 fan coil units for heating and A/C with more efficient units, and replace all toilets with water conservative 1.6 gallon toilets. Neither building is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

This project will also use federal funding to install a 20 kW ground mounted solar array. The array will be 4 panels mounted on a 120ft pier mounted straight line racks or 2 60ft pier mounted racks. This review will analyze both possibilities. In either case the photovoltaics will be located in the same vicinity. Installation will consist of a 36" in diameter hole for the base posts, poured with concrete 70" deep. The proposed location for this project is a field located in a small portion of Anderson Prairie, which was planted in 1998 with 72 species of prairie flower and 5 species of grasses. Prior to 1998 this area was tilled for agricultural usage. Endangered species within the area consist of the Prairie Bush Clover and Western Prairie Fringed Orchid according to the USFWS website. DOE has determined that this project will not adversely impact Threatened or Endangered Species due to the location of project activities not located within critical habitat. The USFWS has also reviewed the project scope and concurred that this project scope will not adversely affect Threatened or Endangered Species as specified in email coordination between the applicant and USFWS.

Luther College will also implement a new energy program, "Luther Energy Conservation Program", which will have an overall goal at reducing Luther College's energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by 5% per year. This will entail education of stakeholders to cultivate a culture of energy conservation on campus. Funds will also be utilized to defer costs associated with hiring an Energy Steward to lead and implement the program.

This project is comprised of building retrofits for energy conservation, installation of a solar array to conserve energy

and to provide education and outreach; therefore a CX A9, B3.6 & B5.1 will apply.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Eugene Brown 6/23/2011

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

Eugene Brown
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

6/23/2011

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 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: _____