

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: Nevada State Office of Energy

STATE: NV

PROJECT TITLE : SEP ARRA - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Schools - Churchill County School District - Numa Elementary School

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000052	EE0000084	GFO-0000084-014	EE84

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:

Churchill County School District is proposing to use \$441,000.00 (Total Project Amount = \$515,000) in SEP ARRA funding to purchase components of and install a ground-mounted solar PV array that will supply electricity for the Numa Elementary School located at 601 Discovery Drive, Fallon, NV 89406. The proposed ground-mounted solar PV system would have a capacity of 90kW and cover an area directly adjacent to the school building approximately 7,200 square feet in size. Final installed height would be 17ft 8in. The solar panels would be anchored by ten concrete piers 30in in diameter and 7ft 6in in depth totaling 320 square feet of ground disturbance. The area where the solar array would be installed is currently in use as a school playground. The solar array would be connected to the school via electric cable laid in a 156ft long trench. All ground where the solar array and associated connections would be installed was previously disturbed and graded during construction of the school. A visual impact study was conducted showing that the proposed solar array would be visible from the north and east which is made up of unoccupied agricultural land (Documentation attached). The array would be visible from two occupied structures at a distance of 730ft to the northwest. There are not expected to be any adverse visual impacts as a result of the proposed project. There are not expected to be any adverse effects to threatened and endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, or cultural resources as a result of the proposed project as these resources are not present at the project site.

After a thorough review of the information submitted for the proposed project, it has been determined that the actions involved will not have a significant impact to human health and /or the environment. The proposed project will result in a reduction in the use of conventional fossil fuels; therefore it is hereby Categorically Excluded B5.1 "actions to conserve energy," from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

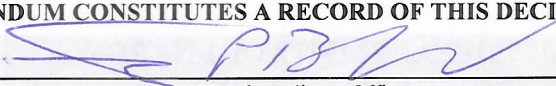
DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

EF2a completed by Logan Sholar

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: 
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 6/20/11

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: _____

National for determination

Churchill County School District is proposing to use \$441,000.00 (Total Project Amount = \$215,000) in SEP ARRA funding to purchase components of and install a ground-mounted solar PV array that will supply electricity for the Numa Elementary School located at 801 Discovery Drive, Fallon, NV 89408. The proposed ground-mounted solar PV system would have a capacity of 80kW and cover an area directly adjacent to the school building approximately 1,200 square feet in size. First installed height would be 11ft 6in. The solar panels would be anchored by ten concrete piers 30in in diameter and 18 6in in depth totaling 320 square feet of ground disturbance. The area where the solar array would be installed is currently in use as a school playground. The solar array would be connected to the school via electric cable laid in a 180ft long trench. All ground where the solar array and associated connections would be installed was previously disturbed and graded during construction of the school. A visual impact study was conducted showing that the proposed solar array would be visible from the north and east which is made up of unoccupied agricultural land (documentation attached). The array would be visible from two occupied structures at a distance of 130ft to the northwest. There are not expected to be any adverse visual impacts as a result of the proposed project. There are not expected to be any adverse effects to threatened and endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, or cultural resources as a result of the proposed project as these resources are not present at the project site.

After a thorough review of the information submitted for the proposed project, it has been determined that the actions involved will not have a significant impact to human health and the environment. The proposed project will result in a reduction in the use of conventional fossil fuels; therefore it is hereby Categorical Excluded 85.1 actions to conserve energy, from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for the award.

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist:

EISA completed by Logan Sholar