

FMC-ef2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: County of Bergen

STATE: NJ

PROJECT TITLE : Bergen County On Site Renewable Energy Systems

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-EE0000671.004 rev	GFO-0000671.004	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.

Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide \$3,437,000 in EECBG funding to design and install two solar canopy photovoltaic systems in existing City-owned, paved parking lot areas.

The original NEPA determination (EE0000671.004) proposed locations, which needed to be abandoned due to compromised structural integrity.

Two new proposed locations include: 1) the Bergen County Community Services Building located at 327 E. Ridgewood Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey 07652 and 2) the NJ and Bergen County Law & Public Safety Building located at 281 Campgaw Road in Mahwah, NJ 07430. The sizes of the systems proposed are 115 kW and 320 kW, respectively.

The Bergen County Community Services Building is surrounded by urban development directly adjacent to the Bergen Region Medical Center. The parking lot is adjacent to the medical center. The nearest residence would be within 1,000 feet of the proposed location.

The NJ and Bergen County Law & Public Safety Building is located east of Highway 287 and directly adjacent to the Darligton Golf Course. The parking lot is between the golf course and the building. The nearest residence would be located with 1,000 feet of the proposed location.

The proposed systems would be located on paved parking lots. No structural analysis would be required as the systems would not be installed on rooftops. The contractor would be responsible for maintenance of the proposed system.

According to the design engineer, the solar canopies would not interfere with parking spots because cars would park below the PV canopy. The post foundations would be placed in the center of the canopies for the dual entry systems to ensure no parking spaces are lost.

The proposed system would be connected to the grid. The electrical interconnection point at each building would be at the main electrical service panel. The existing electrical meters would need to be replaced during the project as part of the net-metering/interconnection application process.

No wetlands, floodplains, or threatened and endangered species would be affected as these are previously disturbed

areas.

In view of the information provided by the State and the recipient, DOE has determined that the impacts related to the proposed project are anticipated to have negligible effects on the human and natural environment. The proposed project is consistent with actions outlined in A9, "information gathering" and B5.1, "actions to conserve energy," and is, therefore, categorically excluded 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 :

Cristina Tyler 7.18.2011

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:


NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

7/19/11

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:
