

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: Clean Tech Innovations, LLC

STATE: OK

**PROJECT TITLE :** SPI Conformance Gel Applications in Geothermal Zonal Isolation

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000522	DE-EE0005508	GFO-0005508-001	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, analysis, and dissemination**

Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

**B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects**

Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for smallscale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions, provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.

**Rational for determination:**

Clean Tech Innovations, LLC would utilize DOE and cost share funds to advance, verify, and create "pilot scale" ready SPI (Silica Polymer Initiator) gel technologies for use in geothermal zonal isolation methods. Laboratory work would be conducted at Clean Tech Innovations laboratory facility at 6105 SE Nowata Rd., Unit 3 in Bartlesville, OK 74006.

This project includes two Phases but this NEPA review is for Phase I only. Prior to initiating Phase II activities, there would be a go/no-go decision point after which DOE would determine whether or not to fund Phase II activities. Additional NEPA review will be required if this project is selected to continue with Phase II activities.

**Phase I – Gel Matrix Preparation and PreTest Design**

1. Management, Planning and Start-Up
2. Bench Scale "Proof of Concept" – laboratory analysis of SPI gels
3. Dynamic Testing Design and Start Up – design of testing equipment and laboratory analysis

Phase II will require additional NEPA review if the project is selected to continue with Phase II activities.

There is no fieldwork associated with Phase I of this project.

According to the R&D laboratory questionnaire, no permits are needed for project activities. No air pollutants would be produced from this work during Phase I activities. Liquid effluent and toxic wastes would be collected, handled, and disposed of properly

Phase I Budget: \$135,670 (DOE) \$33,917 (cost share)

Phase I of this project is composed of information gathering, analysis, and dissemination; and laboratory operations; therefore the DOE has categorized this into Categorical Exclusions A9 and B3.6.

**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:

Phase II (all tasks)

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Phase I (all tasks)

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.

Note to Specialist :

EF2a prepared by Casey Strickland

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*12/21/2011*

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