

PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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

**RECIPIENT:** Indiana Office of Energy Development**STATE:** IN**PROJECT TITLE :** Program Year 2012 State Energy Program Formula Grants

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000643	NT43163	GFO-0043163-006	

**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:

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| <b>A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination</b> | 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.) |
| <b>B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems</b>                      | The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available solar photovoltaic systems located on a building or other structure (such as rooftop, parking lot or facility, and mounted to signage, lighting, gates, or fences), or if located on land, generally comprising less than 10 acres within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.   |

**Rational for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided \$732,000 in federal funding to the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED) under the DOE's Annually Appropriated State Energy Program (SEP) for 2012.

Previous NEPA determinations were made for Market Title-Community Conservation Challenge, GFO-0043163-001 (CX A9, A11 6/25/2012) and GFO-0043163-002 (CX A9, B5.1 1/30/2013), to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy through community-scale building retrofits and vehicle conversion kits. This NEPA determination applies to the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays at six locations under the same Market Title that were not reviewed under the original determination with DOE funding totaling \$150,000.

The OED proposes to hire Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light (H-IPL) to install a total of 436 solar PV panels for a total of 110.66 kW at six congregations in Bloomington and Indianapolis, Indiana.

The locations and kW PV array size are as follows:

- Congregation of Beth Shalom, 78 panels, 20.58 kW: 3750 E. Third Street, Bloomington, Indiana
- Englewood Christian Church, 60 panels, 15 kW: 57 N. Rural Street, Indianapolis, Indiana
- St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 88 panels, 22.88 kW: 3800 E. Third Street, Bloomington, Indiana
- Trinity Episcopal Church, 74 panels, 18.5 kW: 111 South Grant Street, Bloomington, Indiana
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, 96 panels, 24 kW: 2120 N. Fee Lane, Bloomington, Indiana
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis, 40 panels, 10 kW: 61 West 43rd Street, Indianapolis, Indiana

The six locations range in size from 10,000 sq. ft. to 22,640 sq. ft. All of the locations are located in developed areas near residential and commercial structures, and all areas are zoned as Institutional, Commercial or Residential. All solar PV arrays would be roof-mounted with minimal visual impact. The highest mounted array would be located on the roof of a three story wing of the Englewood Christian Church. All locations would be grid connected and there would be no onsite storage for batteries. Maintenance for the solar PV arrays would be managed by the congregations at each of the locations.

The structures range in age from 41 years to 86 years old. Three of the buildings (Englewood, Trinity, and Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis) are older than 50 years old and all locations have been reviewed by the Indiana Historic Preservation Office (IHPO).

In letters dated from October and November, 2012, IHPO did not identify any historic buildings, structures, districts or



objects listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places within the probable area of potential effects for five of the six locations. Trinity Episopal Church was identified as meeting the criteria of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) due to its historical and architectural significance. However, based on the information provided to the IHPO, the characteristics that qualify the historic property for inclusion in the NRHP would not be diminished as a result of the project.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Program website identifies two species in Monroe and Marion County, Indiana; the Indiana Bat and the Bald Eagle. DOE has determined that the PV solar installations would be small in scale, have minimal ground disturbance at a previously disturbed site and are not likely to adversely affect the endangered species in the area. Other resources, including wetlands and floodplains would not be adversely affected as they are not known to occur at the proposed location.

In addition to solar PV installations, the congregations would implement additional energy conservation measures, engage and support community members to reduce household energy use and conduct workshops on energy reduction.

Based on the review of project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that the installation of solar PV arrays at six locations would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined the proposed installation is consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "information gathering," and B5.16, "solar photovoltaic systems," and is 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:

If you intend to make changes to the scope or objective of your project you are required to contact the Project Officer identified in Block 11 of the Notice of Financial Assistance Award before proceeding. You must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved.

Note to Specialist :

This NEPA determination applies to proposed project described above. Any additional activities under the Community Conservation Challenge Market Title not cover by this NEPA determination or the previous NEPA determination (GFO-0043163-001/002) will require additional NEPA review and approval before expenditure of federal funds.

Kelly Daigle 1/29/2013

Cost Share: \$209,621  
DOE Share: \$150,000  
Total Project Cost: \$359,621

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  NEPA Compliance Officer Date: 2/19/2013

**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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager