

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: State of Louisiana - Department of Natural Resources

STATE: LA

PROJECT

TITLE : State Energy Program -ARRA Revolving Loan Fund - Ivan Smith Furniture - CNG vehicle fueling stations

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number
DE-FOA-0000052

Procurement Instrument Number
DE-E0000124

NEPA Control Number
GFO-0000124-022

CID Number

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** (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.
- B5.22** The installation, modification, operation, and removal of alternative fuel vehicle fueling stations (such as for compressed natural gas, hydrogen, ethanol and other commercially available biofuels) on the site of a current or former fueling station, or within a previously disturbed or developed area within the boundaries of a facility managed by the owners of a vehicle fleet. 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 funding to the State of Louisiana - Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) under the DOE's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) State Energy Program (SEP). DOE ARRA funding was used to establish a Revolving Loan Fund called the Empower Louisiana Flex-Fund Revolving Loan Program. LDNR proposes to provide a loan from this fund to Ivan Smith Furniture (Ivan Smith). Loan and cost-share funding would be used to install two compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle fueling stations, purchase five vehicles that operate on CNG and purchase and install approximately 40 CNG vehicle conversion kits. The two new CNG vehicle fueling stations would primarily serve Ivan Smith fleet vehicles, but would also be available to the general public to purchase CNG vehicle fuel.

The two new CNG vehicle fueling stations would be installed at two existing Ivan Smith properties on previously disturbed land adjacent to existing buildings. One fueling station would be installed adjacent to Ivan Smith's 100,000 sq. ft. distribution warehouse located at 5434 Technology Drive, Shreveport in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. The other fueling station would be installed adjacent to Ivan Smith's 100,000 sq. ft. retail distribution warehouse located at 3591 Pecanland Mall Dr., Monroe in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana.

LDNR and Ivan Smith provided details for the installation of each CNG fueling stations, safety measures and standards, appropriate control technologies and best management practices that would be incorporated in the installation and subsequent operation of the facilities, and the necessary state and local permits that would be obtained prior to installation and operation. Emergency and safety features would be installed per National Fire Code NFPA 30A - Flammable and Combustible Liquids and National Fire Code NFPA 52 - Vehicle Fuel Systems. Staff would be trained on safety and operation procedures. Safety and operation signs and security and emergency monitoring equipment would be installed at each site.

The Shreveport CNG fueling station project site would be approximately 20,000 sq. ft. in a previously disturbed area just east of an existing paved access road and parking lot and partially within an existing storm water detention basin. Approximately 80,000 sq. ft. of a previously disturbed land would be impacted during construction. Existing site utilities would be connected to the station. To provide natural gas for the CNG station a new 4 inch natural gas line would be brought in from the south of the property via a ~300 foot trench. The existing storm water detention basin would be modified to accommodate storm water from the new station. The station would include the following new equipment: a 250 horsepower Compressor Package; a natural gas dryer; three 100 gallon DGE storage spheres equaling 330 GGE of storage capacity; and one double-sided CNG dispenser. The finished fueling station would be approximately 11,000 sq. ft. and paved in concrete. It would include a "U-shaped" access road, a concrete pad for the CNG processing and storage equipment, and a concrete fueling island for the CNG dispenser. The CNG processing and storage equipment would be inside of a container designed to house CNG fueling infrastructure, bolted to the concrete pad and surrounded by security fencing and concrete bollards. The CNG dispenser would be bolted to the concrete island and surrounded by concrete bollards and the entire station would be within security fencing.

The Monroe fueling station project site would be approximately 30,000 sq. ft. in a previously disturbed area just north of an existing parking lot and the Ivan Smith retail distribution warehouse. Existing site utilities would be connected to the station. To provide natural gas for the CNG station a new 4 inch natural gas line would be brought in from the north of the property via a ~115 foot trench through previously disturbed land. The station would include the following new equipment: a 250 horsepower Compressor Package; a natural gas dryer; three 100 gallon DGE storage spheres equaling 330 GGE of storage capacity; and two double-sided CNG dispensers. The finished fueling station would be approximately 11,000 sq. ft. and paved in concrete. It would include a thru access road connected to the existing parking lot, a concrete pad for the CNG processing and storage equipment, and two concrete fueling islands for the CNG dispensers. The CNG processing and storage equipment would be inside of a container designed to house CNG fueling infrastructure, bolted to the concrete pad and surrounded by security fencing and concrete bollards. The CNG dispensers would be bolted to the concrete islands and surrounded by concrete bollards and the entire station would be within security fencing.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Program website identifies two species in Ouachita Parish and six species in Caddo Parish. DOE has determined that the installation of two CNG vehicle fueling stations at previously disturbed sites, within developed areas would not adversely affect the endangered species in the area. Other resources, including wetlands, floodplains, and historical or cultural resources would not be adversely affected as they are not known to occur at the proposed location.

Based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the proposed installation of two compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle fueling stations at previously disturbed locations and fleet vehicle fuel conversion efficiency upgrade activities would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined the proposed activities are consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions B5.1 "Actions to conserve energy," and B5.22 "alternative fuel vehicle fueling stations," and are 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.

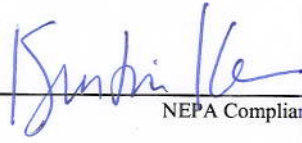
Note to Specialist :

Obadiah Broughton 2/8/2013

KK

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____



NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

2/11/2013

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: _____

Field Office Manager

Date: _____