

PMC-EF2a

(20402)

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



RECIPIENT: Stone Mountain Technologies, Inc.

STATE: TN

PROJECT TITLE : Low-Cost Gas Heat Pump For Building Space Heating

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000621	DE-EE0006116	GFO-0006116-001	

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:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the Stone Mountain Technologies, Inc. (SMTI) to research and develop a low-cost packaged heat pump prototype for building space heating applications. Funding would be used to research, design, fabricate and test heat pump components and a packaged heat pump prototype. Data would be collected, analyzed and integrated into prototype designs.

To complete the proposed research, development and testing activities, SMTI would partner with the AO Smith Corporation (AO Smith) and the Gas Technology Institute (GTI). Activities would be conducted within existing research and development facilities. SMTI's research and laboratory facility is located at 720 Watauga, Ave. in Erwin, Tennessee. AO Smith's research and laboratory facility, the Corporate Technology Center, is located at 12100 W Park Place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. GTI's Residential/Commercial research laboratory is located within their 18 acre research and development facility at 1700 South Mount Prospect Road in Des Plaines, Illinois.

SMTI, AO Smith and GTI completed R&D questionnaires addressing the protocols for laboratory and facility safety, risk management and waste disposal. The laboratories and facilities comply with standard safety procedures and all processes and procedures are monitored by Environmental Health and Safety staff. All standard safety equipment is in place. The laboratories and facilities have all applicable permits in place, and would not need additional permits for the proposed activities. All handling and disposal of gases, chemicals, wastes and liquid effluents comply with appropriate regulations.

Based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the research, development and analysis activities associated with development of a low-cost packaged heat pump prototype for building space heating applications would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined the proposed project is consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "information gathering, analysis and dissemination" and B3.6 "small-scale research and development, laboratory operations and pilot projects" and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

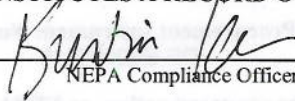
Insert the following language in the award:

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 :

Obadiah Broughton 2/12/2013

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Date: 2/14/2013
NEPA Compliance Officer

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