

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: Ford Motor Company

STATE: MI

PROJECT
TITLE :

Rapid Freeform Sheet Metal Forming: Technology Development and System Verification

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number
FOA-0000560Procurement Instrument Number
DE-EE0005764NEPA Control Number
GFO-0005764-001CID Number
GO5764

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 Ford Motor Company to develop a transformational rapid freeform sheet metal forming technology in an industrial environment. DOE funding would be used to conduct a three year research and development project that moves the integrated die casting process for large thin-wall magnesium applications from technology readiness level 4 through level 6.

Research and development work would take place at three locations: Ford Motor Company Research and Innovation Center (One American Road Dearborn, Michigan 48121), the Technology Institute at Northwestern University (2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois 60208) and the Burke Center at Penn State Erie (5101 Jordan Road, Erie, Pennsylvania 16563). All three laboratories completed an R&D questionnaire addressing the protocols for laboratory and facility safety, risk management and waste disposal. The laboratories comply with standard safety procedures and all processes and procedures are monitored by Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) staff. The laboratories 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 proposed research and development activities 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 exclusion A9 "information gathering, analysis and dissemination," B3.6 "small-scale research and development 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 :

Kelly Daigle 6/20/2013

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: *Kendrick*
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 6/24/2013

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: _____