

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
NEPA DETERMINATION**



RECIPIENT: Sacramento Municipal Utility District

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : CSP Heat Integration for Baseload Renewable Energy Deployment

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000772	DE-EE0006304	GFO-0006304-001	EE6304

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.)
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Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) for permitting, engineering, design, construction, system analysis, and validation of a Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) facility at the Cosumnes Power Plant (CPP) located 25 miles southeast of the City of Sacramento, in Sacramento County to validate the concept of cost-competitive solar electric power generation when combined with the benefits that CSP integration provides to fossil systems. The CSP facility would occupy approximately 90 acres of land with a solar field of heliostats and a solar tower/receiver that would utilize solar salt for thermal storage. The existing natural gas-fueled combined cycle power plant at CPP would be used or modified to accept steam produced by the CSP as part of an advanced hybrid CSP technology.

Phase I would consist of analysis, design, the selection of a CSP provider, permitting and financing activities. Phases II and III would include construction activities, system analysis and validation activities.

This NEPA determination applies to Phase I activities only. The type of activities proposed in Phase II and III generally require an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. DOE will make a determination as to the level of NEPA review required for Phases II and III when sufficient details are available about the proposed project.

Based on review of the project information, DOE has determined that analysis, design, selection of a CSP Provider, permitting and financing activities (Phase I) would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined these activities are consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusion A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination," and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

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:

Construction activities, system analysis and validation activities (Phases II and III of the present SOPO)

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Analysis, design, the selection of a CSP provider, permitting and financing activities (Phase I of the present SOPO)

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 :

This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.

Casey Strickland 9/19/2013

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

9/23/2013

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: _____