

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



RECIPIENT:Perma Works LLC

STATE: NM

PROJECT TITLE : Well Monitoring Systems for EGS

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-PS36-08GO98008	DE-FG36-08GO18185		

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:

B3.11 Outdoor tests and experiments on materials and equipment components

Outdoor tests and experiments for the development, quality assurance, or reliability of materials and equipment (including, but not limited to, weapon system components) under controlled conditions. Covered actions include, but are not limited to, burn tests (such as tests of electric cable fire resistance or the combustion characteristics of fuels), impact tests (such as pneumatic ejector tests using earthen embankments or concrete slabs designated and routinely used for that purpose), or drop, puncture, water-immersion, or thermal tests. Covered actions would not involve source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials, except encapsulated sources manufactured to applicable standards that contain source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials may be used for nondestructive actions such as detector/sensor development and testing and first responder field training.

Rationale for determination:

Perma Works, LLC would use DOE and cost share funding to build geothermal well monitoring tools needed for Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) geothermal projects. All project activities except for field testing were previously approved by GFO-09-067 on January 29, 2009. Field testing activities are being reviewed by this NEPA Determination.

Field testing activities would occur within Well 61-22 at the Blue Mountain geothermal plant in Humboldt County, Nevada. Well 61-22 is located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered lands. While the well is currently not in use, it's drilling and operation was previously permitted as an injection well with both the BLM and the Nevada Division of Minerals. Field testing to validate the performance of the well monitoring tool and test how long the tool would function at ambient well temperatures consists of lowering the tool into the well and passively monitoring pressure and temperature. The initial duration of the test is planned for two months, but could go longer should the tool continue to provide reliable pressure and temperature data. No additional permits beyond those already in place are required for field testing.

Based on review of the project information, DOE has determined that the passive monitoring of Well 61-22 to field test equipment would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that this activity is consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusion B3.11 "Outdoor tests and experiments on materials and equipment components," 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 does not require a tailored NEPA provision.

Casey Strickland 11/25/2013

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

K. J. ...
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

11/25/2013

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: _____