

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Ocean Power Technologies, Inc.

STATE: NJ

PROJECT TITLE : Optimal PowerBuoy Structure Design for Maximized Power to Weight Ratio and Reduced Installed Capital Cost

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000848	DE-EE0006405	GFO-0006405-001	GO6405

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.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to Ocean Power Technologies, Inc. (OPT) to increase the power to weight ratio and the power and energy density of the PowerBuoy, a moored buoy system that generates power from ocean waves. DOE funding would be used for two main objectives: 1) improve the design of the PowerBuoy float to reduce its mass, increase its reliability and decrease cost; and 2) improve the design of the PowerBuoy spar to reduce mass, increase system power capture, increase reliability and decrease cost. All work would be completed in a laboratory setting with no in-water work.

Design, modeling and analysis work would be conducted at OPT located at 1590 Reed Road, Pennington, New Jersey and Lockheed Martin located at 199 Bortons Landing Road, Moorestown, New Jersey. Scaled testing would occur at a Wave Tank Test Facility at the National Research Council Canada located in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. OPT completed an environmental questionnaire addressing the protocols for laboratory safety, risk management, chemical handling and waste disposal for all locations. The research facilities comply with standard safety procedures and all processes and procedures are monitored by appropriate staff. The research 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 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," and 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.

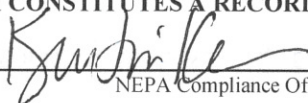
Note to Specialist :

This NEPA Determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.

Kelly Daigle 1/15/2014

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____


NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

1/15/2014

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: _____