

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: U.S. Department of Energy

STATE: Mult

PROJECT TITLE : 2014 Weatherization Formula Grant Awards

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number **Procurement Instrument Number** **NEPA Control Number** **CID Number**
GFO-WAP-2014

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.)

A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

B5.17 Solar thermal systems The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available smallscale solar thermal systems (including, but not limited to, solar hot water systems) located on or contiguous to a building, and if located on land, generally comprising less than 10 acres within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy administers the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) as authorized by Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended. The goal of WAP is to increase the energy efficiency of dwellings owned or occupied by low-income persons, reduce their total residential expenditures, and improve their health and safety.

DOE anticipates making approximately 59 formula-based awards under the Fiscal Year 2014 WAP to States, Territories, and the District of Columbia (hereinafter "States"). The total amount of DOE funding is not finalized at this time. Each home weatherized under WAP would receive approximately \$6,500.

States would use 2014 WAP funding for the following activities:

- Installing insulation in attics, walls, floors, ducts, pipes, and water heaters;
- Air Sealing (i.e. caulk and weather-stripping);
- Heating and Cooling System Safety checks & Efficiency modifications, such as:
 - Tuning, burner retrofit, and replacement
 - Controls – thermostats, valves
 - Domestic hot water heating tuning, repair & replacement (including solar thermal replacements)
 - Multi-family building controls & efficiency improvements;
- Duct modifications and sealing, including duct distribution system repairs and additions;
- Electric Base Load (such as replacing appliances with energy efficient appliances; replacement of lighting and water heaters);
- Energy-Related Health and Safety Measures (i.e. Carbon monoxide and smoke alarms replacement and installation, lead-safe weatherization procedures, blower door testing for building tightness levels, and combustion appliance safety inspections);
- Incidental and/or necessary energy-related repairs & replacement of broken windows & doors; and
- Client Education, training and technical advice

Based on a review of the above information and the activities funded by the Fiscal Year 2014 WAP, DOE has determined that the proposed activities would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. Therefore, DOE is categorically excluding the Fiscal Year 2014 WAP from further NEPA review under DOE categorical exclusions: A9 "information gathering, analysis, and dissemination;" A11 "technical advice and assistance to organizations;" B2.2 "building and equipment instrumentation;" B5.1 "actions to conserve energy or water;" and B5.17 "solar thermal systems."

Note- Any project involving ground-breaking activities, new construction, or projects involving the installation of onsite renewable energy technology that generate electricity from renewable resources is subject to additional NEPA review by DOE.

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.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

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.

Projects involving ground-breaking activities, new construction, or projects involving the installation of onsite renewable energy technology that generate electricity from renewable resources are subject to additional NEPA review.

Note to Specialist :

This requires a tailored NEPA provision.

Diana Heyder 2/5/2014

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin

Date: 2/7/2014