

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Youngstown State University

STATE: OH

PROJECT TITLE : TechBelt Energy Innovation Center

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
CDP	DE-EE0003778	GFO-0003778-002	GO3778

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.)

B5.18 Wind turbines The installation, modification, operation, and removal of a small number (generally not more than 2) of commercially available wind turbines, with a total height generally less than 200 feet (measured from the ground to the maximum height of blade rotation) that (1) are located within a previously disturbed or developed area; (2) are located more than 10 nautical miles (about 11.5 miles) from an airport or aviation navigation aid; (3) are located more than 1.5 nautical miles (about 1.7 miles) from National Weather Service or Federal Aviation Administration Doppler weather radar; (4) would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on bird or bat populations; and (5) are sited or designed such that the project would not have the potential to cause significant impacts to persons (such as from shadow flicker and other visual effects, and noise). 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. Covered actions include only those related to wind turbines to be installed on land.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to Youngstown State University (YSU) to develop the Warren Technology and Businesses Center for Energy, conduct fundamental energy related research, and provide community outreach and education initiatives. The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) made a previous NEPA Determination (CX A1, A9, A11, B3.6; 2/18/2011) for research and development work for a shrouded wind turbine, facility inspection, planning, design, education, and outreach. Golden Field Office completed a NEPA Determination (GFO-0003778-001; 02/14/2013) for renovation activities at the Kresge Store Building in Warren, Ohio and outreach and education activities. This NEPA Determination is for the two remaining subtasks related to the installation and testing of the shrouded wind turbine (Subtask 2.6 and 2.7).

Three wind turbines would be installed by YSU as part of two separate projects. Two of the turbines would be funded through a separate DOE managed award (DE-EE0000366). The 25 kw turbine funded through this award would have a tower height of 80 ft. with a blade diameter of 28 ft. Total height of the turbine is expected to be 94 ft. Shrouding would be installed on the turbine to test efficiencies. In consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, DOE determined that the turbine installation is not likely to adversely affect any species of concern (see uploaded document 03E15000-2014-I-0245_USFWS.pdf). No other resources of concern, other than historic properties (discussed below), were found during the review of the turbine installation.

All three turbines would be installed on the north end of YSU property along the east side of Wick Avenue between Melnick Hall and the Madison Avenue Expressway service road. This location is within the Wick Avenue Historic District. DOE found that installation of the wind turbines would constitute an adverse effect to the historic district and the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with the finding. DOE has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the SHPO and YSU has agreed to mitigations to compensate for the wind turbine installation's adverse effect to the historic district (see uploaded document DOE_Ohio SHPO_MOA-YSU Final fully signed.pdf). These mitigations/stipulations will be incorporated into the award as part of the Terms and Conditions.

Based on review of the project information and required mitigations/stipulations, DOE has determined that the remaining project activities for the installation and testing of the wind turbine would not have a significant individual or

cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that these activities are consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination," and B5.18 "Wind turbines," and are 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 requires a tailored NEPA provision.

Casey Strickland 06/25/14

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: 
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 6/27/2014

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: _____