

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT:The Pennsylvania State University

STATE: PA

PROJECT TITLE : Surface and Subsurface Geodesy Combined with Active Borehole Experimentation for the Advanced Characterization of EGS Reservoirs

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-EE0000842	EE0006761	GFO-0006761-001	

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.)

Rationale for determination:

The Pennsylvania State University (PSU) would utilize DOE and cost share funding to explore the use of the Hydraulic Pulse Protocol (HPP) borehole tool to determine the initial characteristics of a geothermal reservoir at field scale, explore and develop protocols using the HPP tool to define how the dependency of these and other key characteristics of the reservoir would evolve under the action of stress, temperature and chemistry, and examine how this tool could help to constrain critical characteristics in the evolution of reservoir state. Project work consists entirely of feasibility/paper studies that would take place at PSU and the University of Texas at Arlington.

Based on review of the project information, DOE has determined the proposed project 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 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 08/20/2014

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Kristin Kerwin
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 8/27/2014

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: _____ Date: _____
 Field Office Manager

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