

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 (on behalf of all Awardees)

STATE: Mult

PROJECT TITLE : U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2015

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA0000959		GFO-FOA0000959-002	

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:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B3.14 Small-scale educational facilities | Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of small-scale educational facilities (including, but not limited to, conventional teaching laboratories, libraries, classroom facilities, auditoriums, museums, visitor centers, exhibits, and associated offices) within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Operation may include, but is not limited to, purchase, installation, and operation of equipment (such as audio/visual and laboratory equipment) commensurate with the educational purpose of the facility. |
| B1.22 Relocation of buildings | Relocation of buildings (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated buildings) to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). |

Rationale for determination:

DOE is proposing to move into budget period 2 (BP2) of Solar Decathlon 2015. In BP2 DOE would provide additional funding to the Solar Decathlon 2015 teams. Solar Decathlon 2015 now consists of approximately 17 domestic and international affiliated collegiate teams (one team has withdrawn) that would utilize DOE and cost share funds to design, build, and operate solar-powered residential buildings that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive. The Solar Decathlon is a two-year program that culminates with an on-site competition between each university team that submits a solar-powered home for the competition. The first year is centered on design while the second year involves materials selection, construction and fundraising. After construction is completed on campus, the houses are disassembled and transported to the event site where they are reassembled and made ready for the competition. After the competition is over the teams and organizers have five days for disassembly.

A previous NEPA Determination (GFO-FOA0000959-001 3/26/14 CX A9) was completed for first-year (Budget Period 1) activities. This NEPA Determination is for second-year (Budget Period 2) activities which would consist of constructing a 1,000-square-foot home for the DOE 2015 Solar Decathlon competition per rules determined by NREL, the contest's moderator. The construction of each home would take place on college campuses, or other land owned and operated by each university (listed below).

Stanford has withdrawn from the competition since the last determination was made. The 17 remaining Awardees (and their respective worksites) listed below have been grouped under the umbrella of this determination:

- DE-EE0006547: Stevens Institute of Technology, (SIT)
SIT Griffith Building, Hoboken, NJ
- DE-EE0006548: University of California, Irvine (UCI)
UCI, RapidTech Facility, Engineering Tower, Irvine, CA
UCI, Calit2 Building, Irvine, CA
Chapman University, Marion Knott Studios, Orange, CA
Irvine Valley College, Irvine, CA
Saddleback College, Mission Viejo, CA
- DE-EE0006549: State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo
SUNY, Howe Building, Buffalo, NY
- DE-EE0006551: California Polytechnic State University (CalPoly)
CalPoly campus, San Luis Obispo, CA
- DE-EE0006552: Yale University
Yale campus, Orange, CT

- DE-EE0006554: State University of New York (SUNY) at Alfred
SUNY Workforce Development Building, Wellsville, NY
- DE-EE0006555: Crowder College (CC)
Maret Center, Neosho, MO
Hammons School of Architecture, Springfield, MO
CC Campus, Neosho, MO
- DE-EE0006556: Vanderbilt University (VU)
VU campus, Nashville, TN
- DE-EE0006557: University of Florida (UF)
Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL
UF Architecture Building, Gainesville, FL
- DE-EE0006558: The University of Texas at Austin (UT)
UT campus, Austin, TX
- DE-EE0006559: Clemson University (CU)
Lee Hall, Charleston, SC
Architecture Center, Charleston, SC
- DE-EE0006560: University of California, Davis (UCD)
UCD campus, Davis, CA
- DE-EE0006561: West Virginia University (WVU)
WVU campus, Morgantown, WV
- DE-EE0006562: Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T)
Missouri S&T campus, Rolla, MO
- DE-EE0006563: California State University (CSU), Sacramento
CSU campus, Sacramento, CA
- DE-EE0006565: New York City College of Technology (CUNY)
CUNY Vorhees Hall, NY, NY
- DE-EE0006566: Western New England University (WNE)
WNE campus, Springfield, MA

Because design and construction activities would take place on college- or university-owned property, all activities would be subject to established environmental health and safety EHS protocols at the university including training on the use of proper protective equipment, and all persons on site would be qualified through OSHA training programs. Additional policies and procedures would be implemented as needed, if and when new health and safety risks are identified. Minimal quantities of chemicals and other materials would be used during construction of the small house, and all required building permits such as Mechanical, Electrical, Structural, Zoning, and Temporary Occupational Use and local building permits would be attained prior to beginning construction. All associated inspections would also be completed as required. Materials would be recycled or reused as possible, and materials unable to be recycled would be disposed of in accordance with all appropriate local guidance.

Emissions associated with vehicular traffic and minimal generator use, as well as trace quantities of particulates generated by this project are expected to have a negligible overall impact.

DOE has determined that general building construction and relocation of prefabricated buildings occurring as part of second-year (Budget Period 2) activities 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 exclusion B3.14 "Small-scale educational facilities" and B1.22 "Relocation of buildings" 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 :

Building Technologies Office
This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.
Review completed by Rebecca McCord, 11/18/2014

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

