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



**RECIPIENT:** Pace Energy and Climate Center, Pace University School of Law

**STATE:** NY

**PROJECT TITLE :** Northeast Solar Energy Market Coalition (NESEMC)

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0001071	DE-EE0006912	GFO-0006912-001	GO6912

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.

**Rationale for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to Pace Energy and Climate Center (PECC) to develop a coordinated regional campaign to accelerate the deployment of solar electric photovoltaic (PV) power, and reduce the consequent cost burden on electric ratepayers through the creation of the Northeast Solar Energy Market Coalition (NESEMC).

The NESEMC would involve policy analysis, education and outreach, and participation in utility pilots, demonstrations, and other solar market initiatives. Project activities are those associated with a policy coalition; analysis of written policy documents, meetings, and development and distribution of educational and informational documents in written and electronic form, in oral presentations, by telephone, or through webinars, presentations, meetings, and seminars. The proposed project would be limited exclusively to intellectual, academic, or analytical activities and would use no physical materials beyond basic office supplies and software.

Based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the proposed project would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that this project is consistent with actions outlined in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination" and A11 "Technical advice and assistance to organizations" and is therefore 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.

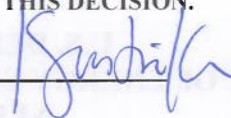
Note to Specialist :

Solar Energy Technologies Office  
This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.  
Review completed by Rebecca McCord, 12/09/2014

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Electronically Signed By: **Kristin Kerwin**  
NEPA Compliance Officer



Date: 12/12/2014

**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: \_\_\_\_\_