

PMC-ND  
(1.08.09.13)

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



**RECIPIENT:**Pacific International Center for High Technology Research

**STATE:** HI

**PROJECT TITLE :** Hawaii Renewable Energy Development Venture

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
Project 11 - ProtaCulture	DE-FG36-08GO88146	GFO-88146-018	GO88146

**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:

<b>A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations</b>	Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.
<b>A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination</b>	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 U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to the Pacific International Center for High Technology Research (PICHTR) to fund ProtaCulture to develop a go-to-market plan for designing, developing and manufacturing a sustainable insect-based production system to make local animal feed ingredients and biodiesel from organic wastes.

ProtaCulture is a sub recipient within the PICHTR award, DE-FG36-08GO88146. PICHTR administers the Energy Excelerator Program which has been previously reviewed by NEPA (GFO-GO88146-009, CX A9, A11, B5.1, 3/27/2013).

The proposed project activities would include customer discovery activities such as validating core assumptions about potential customers and stakeholders; developing questions to understand the market and market economics; customer delivery meetings; customer delivery evaluation and strategic planning; participating in Energy Excelerator activities; participating in outreach and social media activities, and reporting on progress. 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 a review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that 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 exclusion A9 "Information gathering, analysis and dissemination" and A11 "technical advice and planning assistance" 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 :

Bioenergy Technologies Office  
This NEPA Determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.  
NEPA Review completed by Logan Sholar, 1/7/15

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin  Date: 1/8/2015  
NEPA Compliance Officer

**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