

PMC-ND  
(1.08.09.13)

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



**RECIPIENT:**Native Village of Shishmaref

**STATE:** AK

**PROJECT TITLE :** Energy Efficiency Upgrades for the Clinic and the Tannery and Wind Energy for Power to the Tannery

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
Non-competitive: Alaska START	DE-EE0006483	GFO-0006483-002	GO6483

**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:

**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 Native Village of Shishmaref would utilize DOE and cost share funding to complete energy efficiency measures and upgrades at two community buildings, the Clinic and the Tannery. In addition to the energy efficiency measures, a waste oil heater and residential sized wind turbine would be installed at or near the Tannery. A previous NEPA Determination (GFO-0006483-001, September 3, 2014) approved energy efficiency measures and the waste oil heater installation. This NEPA analysis is for activities associated with the procurement and installation of the wind turbine.

Project work would take place near the new tannery building (constructed in 2004) located on the east side of Shishmaref on Sarichef Island. While the exact location for the wind turbine installation near the new tannery building will depend on factors such as geology and wind, the approximate location for the installation would be 66.257772 North, 166.058808 West (NAD 83 Datum). The wind turbine is anticipated to be a small 2.4 kilowatt residential sized unit with a 12 foot blade diameter approximately 50 feet in height. Resources of concern associated with the turbine installation include biological resources, cultural/historic resources, and air navigation. In a letter dated August 29, 2014, the US Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with a finding of not likely to adversely affect species of concern. The Federal Aviation Administration issued a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation for the turbine installation on September 5, 2014. In a letter dated January 21, 2015, the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with a finding of no historic properties affected by the proposed undertaking. Although surface disturbance for the installation is minimal, as part of best management practices for the project, if the recipient or their staff encounters cultural resources (i.e., historic or prehistoric) during surface disturbing activities, all activities must cease in the vicinity of the discovery immediately, and the DOE Project Officer is to be informed of the discovery immediately. Work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register of Historic Places eligibility criteria (36 CFR 60.4) in consultation with the Alaska SHPO. No other resources of concern were found during review of the proposed activities.

Based on review of the project information, DOE has determined that the procurement and installation 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 exclusion 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.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

If the recipient or their staff encounters cultural resources (i.e., historic or prehistoric) during surface disturbing activities, all activities must cease in the vicinity of the discovery immediately, and the DOE Project Officer is to be informed of the discovery immediately. Work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register of Historic Places eligibility criteria (36 CFR 60.4) in consultation with the Alaska SHPO.

Note to Specialist :

This NEPA Determination does require a tailored NEPA provision.  
Tribal Energy Program  
Casey Strickland 01/30/2015

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Date: 2/2/2015  
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