

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT:Cogenra Solar

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : Automated Manufacturing of Innovative CPV/PV Supercells

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-00001018	DE-EE0006812	GFO-0006812-002	GO6812

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:

B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects	Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for smallscale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions, provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.
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Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to Cogenra Solar to develop, optimize, demonstrate and validate a first-of-kind, automated solar manufacturing line that produces supercells based on Cogenra's Dense Cell Interconnect (DCI) technology.

This award previously received a NEPA determination (GFO-0006812-001; CX-B3.6; 10/8/2014) for project activities which consisted of assembly of photovoltaic (PV) supercells from individual PV cells at the Cogenra facility in Mountain View, CA. Since the date of the original NEPA determination, Cogenra has decided to complete the proposed project activities at a different, existing Cogenra facility. This NEPA determination is a review of the new location in Fremont, CA wherein all activities would remain the same as described in the original NEPA determination.

Proposed project activities would include assembly of PV supercells from individual PV cells. All proposed activities would consist of small-scale research and development and would occur at the existing Cogenra Solar facility in Fremont, CA. The project would not involve the use and handling of hazardous materials. There would potentially be a minimal amount of standard solid waste produced (broken PV cell) which would be managed in accordance with federal, state, and local environmental regulations and facility guidelines. No modifications to the building or existing permits are expected as a result of the proposed project.

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 B3.6 "Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects" and is therefore categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

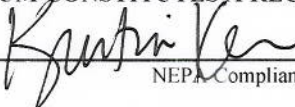
Insert the following language in the award:

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.
NEPA Review completed by Logan Sholar, 3/12/15

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: 
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 3/16/2015

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: _____