

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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

**RECIPIENT:** City of Boise**STATE:** ID**PROJECT TITLE:** City of Boise Geothermal System Extension to Boise State University

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-EE0000318	GFO-0000318-003	GO318

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:

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

Rationale for determination:

The City of Boise (City) is modifying their SOPO and plans to not construct the geothermal lines planned along Broadway Avenue but instead to add a secondary line to the existing injection well for system redundancy and add lines to the existing geothermal system to increase service in downtown Boise area. Both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the original SOPO were given individual C12 NEPA Determinations (GFO-09-401 and GFO-10-545) but only one EA was prepared that included all of the proposed project activities. An EA was completed (DOE/EA-1763) with a FONSI in late 2010. After completion of the extension of the geothermal lines to serve the southeast portion of the Boise State University (BSU) campus the City determined that the Broadway line was not needed at this time because all of the BSU buildings have a backup heating source, the City has reduced rates to allow service to BSU to be interrupted, and BSU is using significantly less water than originally estimated so the need for the additional capacity is diminished.

DOE has reviewed the existing EA and FONSI for the project. There are no impacts of concern associated with not completing the Broadway line. The area where the new lines would be installed in downtown Boise (see uploaded MAP.pdf) is within the area analyzed for impacts within the existing EA. The new project work would occur within

existing utility right-of-ways and City or State owned lands (streets and parking lots) and would be completed in accord with Section 2.2.2 Construction and Installation of the EA. While the Archaeological and Historical Survey Report completed for the EA and the resultant SHPO consultation focused on an Area of Potential Effect of a 5 foot wide corridor around the originally proposed pipeline and did not specifically analyze the area of the newly proposed work much of the information is still applicable. There are no National Register listed properties or known eligible properties in or near the newly proposed area. Because the work would be completed in utility right-of-way, streets, or parking lots the only potential impact would be to unknown archaeological sites but it is not likely that prehistoric sites would be found adjacent to or within the newly proposed corridors due to the development of the area. Additionally, the City is still required to follow the stipulation found in Section 3.5.2 of the EA which states, "If archaeological or paleontological resources or artifacts are observed during construction activity, work would cease immediately and additional cultural evaluations conducted. All necessary Federal mandates and objectives to protect and conserve cultural and paleontological resources would be supported. The Idaho SHPO would be contacted if archeological resources are encountered during construction of the Proposed Project."

Information and analyses found in DOE/EA-1763 are still applicable and the proposed project changes fall within the scope of the EA. Additionally, based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the change in project scope would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or the environment. DOE has determined the activities proposed are consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusion B5.1 "Actions to conserve energy or water" 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.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

If archaeological or paleontological resources or artifacts are observed during construction activity, work will cease immediately, the City of Boise will contact the DOE Project Officer, and additional cultural evaluations may be required. All necessary Federal mandates and objectives to protect and conserve cultural and paleontological resources will be supported. The City of Boise and/or the DOE will contact and work with the Idaho SHPO if archeological resources are encountered during construction of the Proposed Project to determine appropriate mitigation actions prior to continuation of project work.

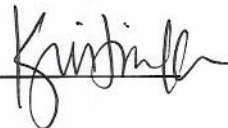
Note to Specialist :

Geothermal Technology Office
This NEPA Determination does require a tailored NEPA provision.
Casey Strickland 03/20/15

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

 Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin
NEPA Compliance Officer



Date: 3/23/2015

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

Field Office Manager review required

NCO REQUESTS THE FIELD OFFICE MANAGER REVIEW FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON: