

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: NREL

STATE: CO

**PROJECT****TITLE :**

South Table Mountain Mesa CDPHE Air Monitoring; NREL Tracking No. 15-014

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-15-014	GO28308

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>B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment</b>	Installation or relocation and operation of machinery and equipment (including, but not limited to, laboratory equipment, electronic hardware, manufacturing machinery, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment), provided that uses of the installed or relocated items are consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure. Covered actions include modifications to an existing building, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area, that are necessary for equipment installation and relocation. Such modifications would not appreciably increase the footprint or height of the existing building or have the potential to cause significant changes to the type and magnitude of environmental impacts.
<b>DOE/EA-1968 (NREL STM)</b>	SITEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, U.S. DOE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY, SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN CAMPUS, GOLDEN, COLORADO

## Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to provide continued property access and logistical support to the state environmental agency for regional air quality monitoring at the DOE National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL's) South Table Mountain (STM) campus in Golden, Colorado.

DOE allows the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) to operate a regional air quality monitoring station on DOE-property on the mesa top of South Table Mountain. Currently, CDPHE operates various air samplers located on top of a shed immediately west of the fence line of the NREL mesa top facilities. The particulate matter sampler requires a CDPHE technician to change filters daily, which presents fall protection and other safety hazards especially in icy conditions. To mitigate these hazards, DOE proposes to allow CDPHE to relocate the particulate matter sample from the roof of the shed to a three-foot tall platform to be constructed near the shed in a previously disturbed area. The platform would be secured to the ground using two-foot long rods at each corner and would have guard rails on three sides for operator safety. The platform would be secured to the frame using wind clamps to prevent wind damage. There would be two or three stair steps up to the top of the platform. A 10' L x 10' W x 6' H chain link fence would be built around the platform to protect the sampler and prevent vandalism, and 9-gauge fabric with twist up would be installed on the fence. Electrical power would be connected by an approved electrical contractor by trenching a 8'L x 2' D x 1.5' W trench from the existing air monitoring station to the proposed platform. Figures and a site diagram are uploaded to the PMC database.

The proposed project would require minor ground disturbance for the installation of the platform and fence posts and a small length of electrical conduit. The extent of this disturbance would be very minimal and would not cause stormwater or erosion impacts. Any mobile air emission sources from construction equipment, such as back hoes, support trucks, etc., would be negligible and short-term. Construction-related noise would consist of a short-term, intermittent increase in ambient noise levels and would abide by applicable noise ordinances. The proposed platform and fence on DOE-property would not be on the edge of the mesa and would not be visible from lower vantage points or neighborhoods in Pleasant View.

CDPHE and its contractors would follow applicable federal, state, local regulations, as well as NREL EHS policies and programs. All construction activities, utility locates, and modifications to the NREL-provided electrical connection would be coordinated with NREL.

Per agency consultations conducted during the Site-Wide Environmental Assessment for the NREL South Table Mountain campus (DOE/EA-1968), no cultural resources, threatened or endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands would be impacted by this proposed project. A migratory bird nesting survey would be conducted prior to project activity on DOE property. If nests or eggs are found, the area would be cordoned off with a proper

buffer until nestlings fledge. This would ensure that no migratory birds, nests or eggs are destroyed during the proposed project.

DOE has determined based upon the information above, there are no extraordinary circumstances presented by this proposed action. DOE has determined the proposed project is consistent with the actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions B1.31 "installation or relocation of machinery or equipment," 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.

Note to Specialist :

NEPA review by Rob Smith on 4/10/2015.

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin  Date: 4/14/2015  
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