

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT:National

STATE: Mult

PROJECT TITLE : STATE ENERGY PROGRAM 2016 COMPETITIVE AWARDS

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0001415		GFO-2016SEP-001	

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:

**A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination** 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.)

**A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations** Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

**Rationale for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) administers the State Energy program (SEP) as authorized by Title III, Energy Policy and Conservation Act. DOE anticipates making up to 21 competitively-selected awards under this announcement (States, Territories, and the District of Columbia (hereinafter "States"), with the total amount of DOE funding equaling up to \$5 million. States would be required to provide 20% cost match based on the award amount.

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's (EERE's) State Energy Program (SEP) seeks applications to advance policies, programs, and market strategies that accelerate job creation and reduce energy consumption while achieving energy and climate security for the nation. This competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) allows States (which includes the District of Columbia and five territories) to compete for funding designed to meet EERE's nationally focused initiatives for the fundamental and permanent transformation of clean energy markets across all sectors of the economy. Specifically, this FOA focuses on three Areas of Interest:

**Area of Interest 1 - State Energy Planning**

Under this Area of Interest, DOE hopes to bolster State energy planning by funding efforts to facilitate stakeholder and interagency discussions concerning (1) the future direction of the energy sector and (2) how energy efficiency and renewable energy fit into a vision for the future. DOE funding will help States explore and enhance economic development opportunities associated with promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy, identify measures for enhancing energy assurance, undertake analytical efforts, and plan strategically for current and future environmental regulations and other economic pressures that will have an impact on the energy sector.

**Area of Interest 2 - Innovative Opportunities for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

Under this Area of Interest, DOE will offer funding to States for the development of new, or the expansion of existing, programs or policies that advance energy efficiency and renewable energy adoption within a portfolio of five Topics of Emphasis:

1. Working with Utilities to Advance State Energy Reduction and/or Renewable Energy Generation Goals. Under this topical area, applicants may submit proposals with strategies to meet or advance State energy reduction and/or renewable energy generation goals by partnering with utilities.

2. Enabling Financing Mechanisms for Public or Private Sector Clean Energy Investment. Under this topical area,

applicants may submit proposals with strategies to develop or expand an energy specific financial policy or initiative to incent public or private clean energy investment.

3. Deploying Energy Performance Benchmarking and Disclosure. Under this topical area, applicants may submit proposals with strategies to develop or expand laws or regulations related to benchmarking and disclosure of energy use in public or private buildings.

4. Standardizing Evaluation Measurement & Verification (EM&V) Processes. Under this topical area, applicants may submit proposals with strategies to develop or expand process related to standardized evaluation, measurement and verification (EM&V) practices to determine energy and emissions reductions from ratepayer and/or non-ratepayer funded efficiency programs.

5. Partnering with Local Governments. Under this topical area, applicants may submit proposals with strategies to develop or expand policies and programs to support local governments design and implement internal and/or publically facing clean energy programs.

Area of Interest 3 - Technical Assistance to Advance SEP Formula Grant Clean Energy Activities

Under this Area of Interest, DOE will offer funding to States for technical assistance activities that maximize the impact of formula grant work related to energy efficiency and/or renewable energy adoption. In order to better serve all States under the SEP purview, Area of Interest 3 is open to only those States that have not received a competitive award in the last four years (FY12-FY15).

Based on a review of the above and the activities funded by DE-FOA-0001415, DOE has determined that the proposed activities do not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, DOE is categorically excluding DE-FOA-0001415 from further NEPA review under DOE CX's A9 "information gathering, analysis, and dissemination and A11 "technical advice and assistance to organizations.

**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:  
Prohibited actions include:

Construction; implementing or paying directly for energy efficient retrofits; implementing or paying for renewable energy projects; repair of buildings or structures; purchase of land, buildings or structures; purchase of equipment to conduct research, development or demonstration of energy efficiency or renewable energy techniques and technologies.

This restriction does not preclude you from: Information gathering, dissemination, analysis, technical advice and assistance.

The State is responsible for informing DOE of any extraordinary circumstances, cumulative impacts, or connected actions that may lead to significant impacts on the environment, or any inconsistency with the "integral elements" (as contained in 10 C.F.R. Part 1021, Appendix B) as they relate to a particular Project. States shall comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). If applicable, the State shall contact the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and/or the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO).

Note to Specialist :

Weatherization & Intergovernmental Programs Office  
This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision. Please see above.  
NEPA review completed by Logan Sholar, 11/19/15.

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Lori Gray / *Lori Gray*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

11/20/2015