

1000666

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: University of Wisconsin-Madison

STATE: WI

PROJECT TITLE: Poroelastic Tomography by Adjoint Inverse Modeling of Data from Seismology, Geodesy, and Hydrology

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number DE-EE0000842 Procurement Instrument Number DE-EE0006760 NEPA Control Number GFO-0006760-001 CID Number

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.)

Rationale for determination:

The University of Wisconsin – Madison would utilize DOE and cost share funding to quantify reservoir complexity for characterizing and managing the Enhanced Geothermal System at Brady Hot Springs, Nevada. The objective of the project is to assess an integrated technology for characterizing and monitoring changes in an EGS reservoir in three dimensions with a spatial resolution better than 50 meters.

Tasks within the project would involve primarily data analysis, modeling, reporting, and project management. However, Task 6 would deployment of equipment for fieldwork. Fieldwork may require permitting from BLM, the Nevada Division of Minerals, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Without additional site specific data, DOE does not have enough information to complete a NEPA analysis of Task 6 of the project. Once additional information is provided, another NEPA review will be required for Task 6 (Deployment) activities.

Based on review of the project information, DOE has determined that all tasks of the proposed project, except Task 6, would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that all tasks of the proposed project, except Task 6, are consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusion A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination," and are categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Task 6 (including all subtasks)

This restriction does not preclude you from:

All tasks and subtasks other than Task 6 (including all subtasks)

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable

cost share.

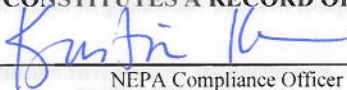
Note to Specialist :

This NEPA Determination does require a tailored NEPA provision.

Casey Strickland 09/10/2014

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____



NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

9/11/2014

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: _____