

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Department of Energy and all selected applicants

STATE: Mult

PROJECT TITLE: DE-FOA-0001453 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-TRIBAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ENERGY PROVIDERS NETWORK - 2016

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0001453		GFO-0001453-001	

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 Department of Energy is proposing to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (DE-FOA-0001453) seeking applications to fund Inter-tribal Organizations for the implementation of technical assistance energy programs that result in clear measurable outcomes or end products that include a plan to become financially sufficient beyond DOE's Office of Indian Energy funding. The locations for this may be in Alaska or any of the lower 48 states.

The DOE Office of Indian Energy is initially piloting these technical assistance energy programs through "Alaska Native Regional Corporations" and "Inter-tribal Organizations". Therefore, under this FOA, the DOE Office of Indian Energy is soliciting "Alaska Native Regional Corporations" and "Inter-tribal Organizations" interested in establishing internal energy experts to provide technical energy assistance and informational resources to their member Indian tribes including Alaska Native villages, on a regional basis.

As part of these inter-tribal regional programs, it is anticipated that energy experts would: Coordinate energy solutions among participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages) within the region; deliver technical assistance to participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages) within the region; build the human capacity of participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages) by providing information to tribal leaders and staff through workshops or webinars; serve as an information clearinghouse for participating Indian tribes (including Alaska Native villages); network with regional and national energy organizations; advise DOE's Office of Indian Energy on the energy goals and needs within their region; and enhance DOE's technical assistance network across Indian Country. All project activities would consist exclusively of intellectual, academic, analytical activities and technical advice/assistance.

Based on review of the FOA, DOE has determined that any project selected under this FOA would consist of activities that would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that FOA activities are consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination," and A11 "Technical advice and assistance to organizations," and are 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:

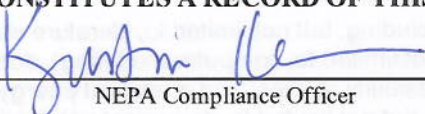
If the Recipient intends to make changes to the scope or objective of this project, the Recipient is required to contact the Project Officer, identified in Block 15 of the Assistance Agreement before proceeding. The Recipient must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved. If the Recipient moves forward with activities that are not authorized for Federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of a final NEPA decision, the Recipient is 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 applies to the issuance of the FOA as well as all awards selected under the FOA, provided the scope of the selected awards remains consistent with the intent of the FOA as currently described. If selected applicants propose to use project funds for activities outside the scope of this NEPA Determination, additional NEPA review will be required.

Office of Indian Energy
Casey Strickland 02/16/16

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Date: 2/22/2016
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