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(1.08.09.15)

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



RECIPIENT: City of Big Bear Lake

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : Solar Energy Parking Canopy Demonstration Project

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
	DE-EE0003186	GFO-0003186-003	GO3186

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>B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems</b>	The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available solar photovoltaic systems located on a building or other structure (such as rooftop, parking lot or facility, and mounted to signage, lighting, gates, or fences), or if located on land, generally comprising less than 10 acres within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.
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**Rationale for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the City of Big Bear Lake, California to develop its Solar Energy Parking Canopy Demonstration Project.

DOE completed two previous NEPA reviews for Task 1 and Task 2 activities (GFO-0003186-001 CX A9, B1.15 and B5.16 on 12/29/2012 and GFO-0003186-002 CX A9, B1.15 and B5.16 on 5/5/2014) which included construction of a storage building, the installation of a solar PV system, minor renovations to an administration building to accommodate public access to an educational kiosk, and the construction of a parking canopy and attached roof-mounted solar PV system. This NEPA determination applies to Task 3 only which includes the installation of a roof-mounted solar PV system.

The proposed rooftop solar PV system would be installed on the roof of the existing Department of Water and Power (DWP) building located at 41972 Garstin Dr., Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 which is surrounded by other City buildings and parking areas. The solar PV system would be installed on the south facing roof of the building partially filling the 4,300 square foot roof, and would be expected to produce 50 kilowatts. The PV system would include three (3) 14 kilowatt inverters wall-mounted on the exterior of the existing office building and would be connected to the DWP electrical distribution center. Ground disturbance associated with the proposed project would include a 50 foot trench through the existing parking lot for electrical wiring. The DWP building is 250 feet from the nearest road, and there are multiple City buildings between the DWP building and the road; therefore, DOE has determined the quality and visual character of the site would not be substantially degraded, and there would be no significant impact as a result of the proposed project. During construction, normal City construction safety protocol would be followed which includes an Injury and Illness Prevention Program and routine inspections to minimize health and safety risks to employees and the public. There would be no change in use, mission, or operation of existing facilities. There would be no change or modification to transmission lines or other utilities. The City would obtain authorization to proceed with the proposed project from the Planning Commission, the City Council, and the requisite permits for NPDES, AQMD and construction from the Building and Safety Department pursuant to local regulations.

Based on a review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that Task 3 activities would not have significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that the work outlined is consistent with the actions identified in categorical exclusion B5.16 "solar photovoltaic systems" 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 :

Review completed by Logan Sholar on 8/5/14.

This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Electronically Signed By: Lori Gray / Lori Gray Date: 8/5/2014  
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