

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Alaska Energy Authority

STATE: AK

PROJECT TITLE : RACEE Phase Two Technical Assistance Delivery

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DNFA	DE-EE0007352	GFO-0007352-001	GO7352

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) is proposing to fund the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) to assist with administration of the "Remote Alaskan Communities Energy Efficiency Competition" (hereafter referred to as the RACEE Competition). The RACEE Competition consists of two phases that include administrative activities, information gathering, analysis, and technical assistance. The Notice of Technical Assistance that established the RACEE Competition was previously reviewed by DOE under GFO-NOTA-AKT-001 (CX A9, A11; 12/17/2015). This NEPA Determination is specific to the funding to AEA. The funding provided to AEA would allow AEA to provide technical assistance to Alaskan Tribes that were selected under the first phase of the RACEE Competition. AEA's assistance would enable the Alaskan Tribes to create project plans for energy efficiency/renewable energy upgrades to existing buildings in tribal areas as they move through the second phase of the RACEE Competition.

AEA technical assistance activities would include conducting comprehensive building inventories, building audits and energy use benchmarking; holding community kick-off meetings; assisting with business plan development, project financing risk assessment; and exploration of all available funding and financing tools to implement projects. Proposed activities would be limited exclusively to intellectual, academic, or analytical activities and would include the research and development of a software tool to generate permit documents. Project participants would use no physical materials beyond basic office supplies and software.

Based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the proposed project would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that this project is consistent with actions outlined in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination" and A11 "Technical advice and assistance to organizations" and is therefore 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

