

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT:NREL

STATE: CO

**PROJECT TITLE** : NWTC Storage Area Grading Project; NREL Tracking No. 16-013

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	16-013	GO28308

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:

**B1.15 Support buildings** Siting, construction or modification, and operation of support buildings and support structures (including, but not limited to, trailers and prefabricated and modular buildings) within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Covered support buildings and structures include, but are not limited to, those for office purposes; parking; cafeteria services; education and training; visitor reception; computer and data processing services; health services or recreation activities; routine maintenance activities; storage of supplies and equipment for administrative services and routine maintenance activities; security (such as security posts); fire protection; small-scale fabrication (such as machine shop activities), assembly, and testing of non-nuclear equipment or components; and similar support purposes, but exclude facilities for nuclear weapons activities and waste storage activities, such as activities covered in B1.10, B1.29, B1.35, B2.6, B6.2, B6.4, B6.5, B6.6, and B6.10 of this appendix.

## Rationale for determination:

NREL is proposing to complete additional upgrades to the NWTC storage area, as a follow on to the NWTC Turbine Blade Demolition & Disposal Project (NREL Tracking No. 16-006). A low spot has developed in a portion of the existing storage area that is often flooded or muddy. In order to improve access to this area, NREL is proposing to grade and gravel approximately 0.5 acres of the storage area.

The proposed project area is located north of Building 256 in the area of storage trailer 257. The area would be graded to level and covered with approximately two inches (approximately 102 cubic yards) of road base material. Following grading and graveling, NREL would install five 40-foot cargo containers to replace those disposed of during the NWTC Turbine Blade Demolition & Disposal Project. The additional storage containers are needed to store materials related to future projects and accommodate normal NWTC operations.

During the project, construction workers would be exposed to hazards typical of a heavy equipment operations related to a grading and graveling project. In addition the placement of the cargo containers would involve use of a boom or crane. Existing corporate health and safety policies and procedures would be followed including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments.

Air emissions during construction would include those typical of heavy equipment such as a backhoe or skid-steer. Also fugitive dust emissions would be produced during grading activities and placement of gravel. Fugitive dust emissions would be monitored and controls would be applied, if warranted.

The project area is within a previously disturbed and developed area and therefore no impacts to native vegetation or wildlife are expected.

Lab Level Procedure 6-1.29 Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Construction Activities: National Wind Technology Center would be followed. Specifically, Program B for projects less than one acre would be used.

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 the environment. DOE has determined the proposed project is consistent with actions outlined in DOE categorical exclusion B1.15 "Support Buildings" 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:

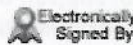
If the Recipient intends to make changes to the scope or objective of this project, the Recipient is required to contact the Project Officer, identified in Block 15 of the Assistance Agreement before proceeding. The Recipient must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved. If the Recipient moves forward 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 :

Review completed by Chris Rowe on 3/14/2016

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

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



Kristin Kerwin

Date: 3/15/2016

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Field Office Manager

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