

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: USDA Forest Service

STATE: WY

PROJECT TITLE : U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region Photovoltaic Systems

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-1297	DE-EE0007459	GFO-0007459-002	

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.)
- B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems** 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.

## Rationale for determination:

The Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Region 6 in support of the proposed "U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region Photovoltaic Systems" project. This project was selected by DOE under the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) Funding Opportunity Announcement (DE-FOA-0001297).

USFS, Region 6 is proposing to install 9 roof- or ground-mounted solar arrays, ranging from 100-500 kilowatts, at 7 off-grid and remote USFS facilities across Oregon and Washington. These facilities are identified as follows:

- Deschutes NF Supervisor's Office Site, Nursery Equipment, Seed Freezer, and Seed Extractor Buildings, 63095 Deschutes Market Rd, Bend, OR 99701 (Site 1)
- Deschutes NF Supervisor's Office Site, 63095 Deschutes Market Rd, Bend, OR 99701 (Site 1B)
- Deschutes NF Supervisor's Office Site, 63095 Deschutes Market Rd, Bend, OR 99701 (Site 1C)
- Deschutes NF, 75 SE Scott St, Bend, OR 97701 (Automotive shop—Site 2)
- Rogue River/Siskiyou NF, J. Herbert Stone Nursery, Lat 42.37° N, Long 122.87° W (Site 4)
- Umatilla NF, North Fork John Day Ranger Station, Shop, and Bunkhouse, Lat 45.1°N, Long 118.9°W (Site 5)
- Wallowa-Whitman NF: LaGrande Hot Shots Site. Lat 45.3°N, Long 118.1°W (Site 11)
- Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, Cle Elum District Office Compound, 803 W 2nd St, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (Site 12)
- Colville NF: Supervisor's Office, Auto Shop, 765 South Main Street, Colville, WA 99114 (Site 13)

Sites 1, 2, 5, 11, 12, and 13 would receive roof-mounted systems. Sites 1C and 4 would receive ground-mounted systems. The system to be installed at Site 1B has not been determined, but would be identical to either the roof- or ground-mounted systems at the other 8 sites.

This award previously received a NEPA determination (GFO-0007459-001; CX-A9; 5/18/2016) for activities associated with Task 1 which included preliminary and planning activities. The purpose of this NEPA determination is to facilitate review of previously prohibited Task 2 which includes finalization and signing of the task order and authorization of funding.

DOE's NEPA determination applies to the authorization of funding from DOE to USFS for Task 2. USFS will

complete a NEPA review for each individual site before installations would occur. DOE is designating USFS as the lead Federal agency for any required consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Each site would be required to follow USFS health and safety policies and procedures including training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments. The waste produced as a result of this proposed project would be recycled whenever possible and otherwise disposed of according to USFS regulations and local disposal practices.

DOE has determined that Task 2 of the proposed project would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or the environment. Further, DOE has determined that Task 2 is consistent with CX A9 "Information gathering, analysis and dissemination" and B5.16 "Solar photovoltaic systems" and is therefore categorically excluded from further DOE 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 :

Federal Energy Management Program  
This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.  
Review completed by Rebecca McCord, 6/1/2016

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

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

 Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin  
NEPA Compliance Officer



Date: 6/2/2016

**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: \_\_\_\_\_