

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : Accelerating Market Adoption of Best-in-class Building Technologies, the Technology Demonstration Initiative (TDI)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0001168	DE-EE0007065	GFO-0007065-002	GO7065

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 provide federal funding to Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) to identify, evaluate and initiate partnerships with technology companies to help accelerate deployment of available high impact buildings technologies that could aid in increasing energy efficiency. This DOE project is fundamentally about LACI's existing building model that connects building owners seeking to reduce energy consumption with new technologies emerging from LACI's network and/or other incubation and research and development networks. While DOE does expect to see a certain level of energy savings from the installation of energy efficient building technologies that may follow from project activities, no project funding is going toward the installation of these technologies and the DOE has no control or discretion over which technologies may be selected for installation or which business owners or commercial facilities may choose to install those technologies. As such, DOE's NEPA review is limited to the scope of the DOE funded project which involves focusing on connecting relevant information about emerging technologies with the Los Angeles Better Buildings Network in an effort to help business owners reduce energy consumption. A previous NEPA Determination was completed for Budget Period (BP) 1 activities (GFO-0007065-001; CX A9; 06/17/15). This NEPA Determination is for the remainder of the proposed project (BP2 and BP3).

Remaining project activities would include monitoring and verification of analytics, case study development and publication, consensus building, and working with the local utility to help build a case for establishing or updating utility rebate programs. In a subset of the buildings that choose to implement energy efficient building technologies, the recipient would measure the energy efficiency impacts of project activities against baseline data to document energy metrics and best management practices as well as develop case studies in an effort to lay the groundwork for expansion of the project to additional markets. Most of the project activities consist of intellectual, academic, or analytical activities only. Monitoring and verification activities may require the recipient or project partners to perform site visits at locations within each market but project activities do not require any physical modification of facilities, ground disturbing activities, or installation of equipment outdoors. The locations where monitoring and verification would occur depend on which buildings choose to implement energy efficient building technologies which is not known at this time but based on the project activities proposed, there would be no potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present, therefore DOE has no further obligations under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. DOE does not anticipate any impacts to resources of concern due to the proposed activities of the project.

Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined that the remainder of the proposal fits within the class of action(s) selected above. DOE has also determined that: (1) there are no extraordinary circumstances (as defined by

10 CFR 1021.410(2)) related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; (2) the proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion; and (3) the proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts, related to other proposals with cumulatively significant actions, or an improper interim action. This proposal 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 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 :

Building Technologies Office
This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.
Review completed by Casey Strickland on 09/19/16

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Date: 9/20/2016
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