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(1.08.09.13)

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



**RECIPIENT:**All 50 States, DC, 5 US Territories & 2 Federally-recognized Native American Tribes **STATE:** Mult

**PROJECT TITLE :** Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) 2017 Formula Grant Awards

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
WAP-ALRD-2017		GFO-WAP-2017	

**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.
  
- B2.2 Building and equipment instrumentation** Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment).
  
- B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water** (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.
  
- B5.17 Solar thermal systems** The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available smallscale solar thermal systems (including, but not limited to, solar hot water systems) located on or contiguous to a building, and 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 U.S. Department of Energy administers the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) as authorized by Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended. The goal of WAP is to increase the energy efficiency of dwellings owned or occupied by low-income persons, reduce their total residential expenditures, and improve their health and safety.

DOE anticipates making approximately 58 formula-based awards under the Fiscal Year 2017 WAP to States, Territories, and the District of Columbia (hereinafter "States"). The total amount of DOE funding is not finalized at this time. Each home weatherized under WAP would receive approximately \$6,500 as determined by the site-specific outcomes of the energy audit process.

States would use 2017 WAP funding for the following activities:

1. Administrative activities associated with management of the designated Weatherization Office and management of programs and strategies in support of weatherization activities. (A9)
2. Development and implementation of training programs and strategies for weatherization effort, including initial home audits, final inspections and client education. (A9 & A11)
3. Purchase of vehicles and equipment needed for weatherization audits. (B5.1)
4. Weatherization activities provided that projects apply the restrictions of each state's programmatic agreement with SHPO, and are limited to (B5.1):
  - Installation of many types of insulation;
  - Air sealing (caulk, door sweeps, weather-stripping, etc.)
  - Heating and cooling system safety checks (clean & tunes)
  - Efficiency Modifications (burner retrofits, replacement of controls – thermostats, valves and adjustments, and replacement of heating and cooling systems)
  - Energy Efficiency retrofits (replacement of heating and cooling systems including domestic hot water heaters)
  - Duct modifications and sealing (duct repairs and additions)
  - Multi-family building controls & efficiency improvement (Ranging from time clocks to heat recovery) (B2.2)
  - Clean, repair &/or replace electric baseload appliances/fixtures (such as refrigerators, water heaters, and lighting)
  - Conversion to Solar thermal installations, repairs and replacements (B5.17)
  - Energy-related health and safety measures including:
    - \* Carbon monoxide and smoke alarms
    - \* Lead-safe (DOE WAP guidance) weatherization procedures and EPA Certified Renovator requirements
    - \* Blower door testing – ventilation and exhaust
    - \* Combustion appliance safety inspections
  - Incidental and necessary energy-related repairs and replacements
  - \* Repair and replacement of damaged windows and doors
  - \* Minor electrical and plumbing repairs

Any project involving ground-breaking activities, new construction, or projects involving the installation of onsite renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources is subject to additional NEPA review by DOE.

Based on the review of the ALRD, DOE has determined that activities anticipated to be selected under this ALRD fit within the class of action(s) selected above. DOE has also determined that based on the types, scope, and scale of anticipated activities that could be selected under the ALRD: (1) there would be no extraordinary circumstances (as defined by 10 CFR 1021.410(2)) that could affect the significance of the environmental effects of the activities; (2) the activities do not lead to segmentation to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion; and (3) the activities would have independent utility and would not be connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts, related to other proposals with cumulatively significant actions, or an improper interim action. Anticipated activities are 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.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

Any work proposed to be conducted at a DOE laboratory may be subject to additional NEPA review by the cognizant DOE NEPA Compliance Officer for the specific DOE laboratory prior to initiating such work. Further, any work conducted at a DOE laboratory must meet the laboratory's health and safety requirements.

Projects involving ground-breaking activities, new construction, or projects involving the installation of onsite renewable energy technology that generate electricity from renewable resources are subject to additional NEPA review by DOE.

States shall adhere to the restrictions of the programmatic agreement with their State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Additionally, documentation of the above reviews for NEPA and Section 106, must be available for DOE review at all times.

Note to Specialist :

Weatherization & Intergovernmental Programs Office - WAP  
This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.  
NEPA review completed by Diana Heyder, 1/25/17

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

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



Casey Strickland

Date: 1/27/2017

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: \_\_\_\_\_

