

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: U.S. based Universities - TBD through FOA

STATE: Mult

PROJECT TITLE : Extending Industrial Assessment Centers to Underserved Areas

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0001704		GFO-FOA-0001704	

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 Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (DE-FOA-0001704) that would lead to the selection of three to six U.S. based universities, as "Industrial Assessment Centers" (IAC).

The IAC program is a manufacturing efficiency and workforce development initiative of DOE's Advanced Manufacturing Office based in the engineering departments of colleges nationwide. IACs conduct assessments and provide site-specific recommendations to small and medium sized manufacturers regarding opportunities to improve productivity, reduce waste and save energy. These projects would perform education and outreach activities, which would include training, data analysis, computer modeling, and technical assistance. These activities include performing energy saving assessments for Small and Medium sized enterprises (SMEs), training undergraduate and graduates to perform these assessments as well as providing them the information needed to understand energy efficiency in a manufacturing environment.

This FOA is intended to provide better national coverage by further expanding the geographic coverage of the IAC program to areas that are unlikely to be adequately serviced because of their distance from the 28 existing IACs. Six geographic gaps in national coverage have been designated as "underserved". This FOA is intended for colleges physically located within one of the six underserved areas to provide IAC services in the same underserved area. The underserved locations are identified as:

- Eastern Great Lakes – Michigan and Northern Ohio
- New York Tri-State Region – New Jersey, New York City, Long Island and Connecticut
- Delmarva – Delaware, Maryland and Virginia
- Upper New England – Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire
- Upper Midwest – Minnesota, Upper Michigan and Wisconsin, North and South Dakota
- Mountain West – New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana

Based on the review of the FOA, DOE has determined that activities anticipated to be selected under this FOA 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 FOA: (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.

Note to Specialist :

This NEPA Determination applies to the issuance of the FOA as well as all awards selected under the FOA, provided the scope of the selected awards remains consistent with the intent of the FOA as currently described. If selected applicants propose to use project funds for activities outside the scope of this NEPA Determination, additional NEPA review will be required.

Advanced Manufacturing Office
Review completed by Chris Rowe, 2/17/2017

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:



Casey Strickland

Date: 2/17/2017

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: