

PMC-ND

(1.05.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Rickly Hydrological Company, Inc.

STATE: OH

PROJECT TITLE
: PROPEL-Hydro System

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0001455	DE-EE0008012	GFO-0008012-001	GO8012

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.)

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to Rickly Hydrological Co. to develop a family of modules including power train and infrastructure components supported by design software which will lower the cost and time of installing hydro assets at non-powered dams. The proposed project would be divided into two Budget Periods (BP), with a down-select between each. This NEPA review is for BP1 only.

BP1 would involve design, development, configuration, and modeling of a small hydro power turbine and related components which would take place at Rickly Hydrological's facility in Columbus, OH. BP1 activities would be limited to intellectual, academic, or analytical activities and would require no physical materials beyond standard office supplies and computer equipment.

Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined the activities associated with Budget Period 1 fit 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. All activities associated with BP1 of this proposal are categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Budget Period 2

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Budget Period 1

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the

