

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: University of California, Riverside (legal name: The Regents of the University of California) **STATE:** CA

PROJECT TITLE : Integrated Distributed Energy Management System at RPU

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0001495	DE-EE0008001	GFO-0008001-001	GO8001

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.)
- B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects** Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for smallscale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions, provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the University of California, Riverside (UCR) to develop and validate a distributed energy resource (DER) management system that automates integration and control of DER clusters with advanced sensor data.

Activities associated with the proposed project would include the design, development, laboratory testing, and pilot scale field demonstration of software and hardware devices. Design and development activities would occur in dedicated research facilities at UCR in Riverside, CA, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) in Berkeley, CA, and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore, CA. Hardware testing would occur in the purpose-build research and development facility of Pacific Gas & Electric in Ramon, CA. No change in the use, mission or operation of existing facilities would arise out of these efforts. The facilities in which design, development, and laboratory testing would occur have all applicable permits in place, and would not need additional permits for the proposed activities.

The proposed pilot scale field demonstration would take place at UCR facilities and on selected Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) distribution feeders; however, the locations of pilot test sites have not yet been finalized. Site selection and permitting would take place during Task 5 in Budget Period (BP 2) of the proposed project. As such, there is not enough information to conduct a meaningful review of activities associated with Tasks 5-7 in BP 2 or any tasks in BP 3. Further NEPA review will be necessary before any Tasks 5-7 and BP 3 activities may be undertaken.

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.

Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined Tasks 1-4 fit within the class of action(s) and the integral elements of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021 outlined in the DOE categorical exclusion(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. Tasks 1-4 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:

Task 5 – "Integration and Interoperability"

Task 6 – "Forecast Resource Allocation"

Task 7 – "Planning Value Analysis & Commercialization"

Budget Period 3:

Task 8 – "Full Pilot Test"

Task 9 – "Value Analysis and Commercialization"

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Budget Period 1:

Task 1 – "Framework Development"

Task 2 – "Algorithm Development"

Task 3 – "Initial Hardware-in-Loop Testing"

Budget Period 2:

Task 4 – "Full Hardware-in-Loop Testing"

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

Note to Specialist :

Solar Energy Technologies Office

This NEPA determination requires a tailored NEPA Provision.

NEPA review completed by Whitney Doss, 04/28/2017

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:



Kristin Kerwin

Date:

4/28/2017

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: _____