

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Long Island Power Authority

STATE: NY

PROJECT TITLE : Long Island Power Authority Offshore Wind Project Study

|  |                                      |                            |                   |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b> | <b>Procurement Instrument Number</b> | <b>NEPA Control Number</b> | <b>CID Number</b> |
| CDP  | DE-EE0003279                         | GFO-0003279-002            | GO3279            |

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 federal funding to the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) to analyze and evaluate future generation options, electric transmission systems, and infrastructure requirements to address the New York offshore wind scenarios.

A previous NEPA determination was completed for this (GFO-10-504, A9, 7/16/2010). The original project involved LIPA engaging in the Long Island – New York City Offshore Wind Collaborative (LI-NYC Collaborative). This collaborative is a public-private partnership that came together to study the potential for an offshore wind project that would be situated south of the Queens/Nassau border. On January 10th, 2017 the State of New York announced a commitment to develop up to 2.4 gigawatts of offshore wind power by 2030, to be predominantly located off of Long Island's coastline. This new commitment resulted in changes to the scope of the project and necessitated this NEPA determination.

Revised project efforts would include:

- Identification of current sources of electric generation, forecasting of peak load, and projection of the amount and types of renewable generation needed to meet NYS mandates.
- Development of offshore wind power integration project feasibility study and assessment of interconnection cost for the South Fork Wind Project.
- Identification and evaluation of offshore wind scenarios and identification and evaluation of areas suitable for offshore wind development in the electric service territory.
- Completion of an independent review of assumptions, planning criteria, and recommendations.
- Completion of local, regional, state and federal government and inter-agency outreach.
- Completion of public outreach.
- Research, analysis, and evaluation of the use of LIDAR for wind resource assessment, monitoring and data.

Activities associated with the proposed project would include data collection, data analysis, report writing, inter-agency coordination, and public outreach. No physical materials beyond basic office supplies and software would be required for the proposed activities.

Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined that 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 :

Wind Energy Technologies Office  
This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.  
Review completed by Chris Rowe on 7/25/2017

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

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



Signed By: Kristin Kerwin

Date: 8/1/2017

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: \_\_\_\_\_