

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: City of San Leandro

STATE: CA

PROJECT TITLE : City of San Leandro's Innovative Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Deployment Project

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number Procurement Instrument Number NEPA Control Number CID Number
SEP-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:

- A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations** Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.
- 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.)
- 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.
- B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems** The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available solar photovoltaic systems located on a building or other structure (such as rooftop, parking lot or facility, and mounted to signage, lighting, gates, or fences), or 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 (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to the California Energy Commission for the design and construction of a 1 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation system and energy efficiency upgrades at a Water Pollution Control Plant, in the City of San Leandro through a program called the Local Government

Challenge. Additionally, San Leandro would develop education and outreach materials on the project for other cities across California.

The proposed project activities for the PV installation would include the installation of approximately 3,058 photovoltaic modules, two central inverters, a racking system, conduit, and monitoring cables all within the two acre site. A concrete pad may need to be installed for the transformers, panelboards, and monitoring racks. The PV installation would occur on an area formerly utilized as the Plant's drying beds (where effluent was placed/aerated/dried) at the City's wastewater facility. Trenching and backfilling may also be required. Minor electrical modifications to the existing facilities would be needed at the meter to integrate the PV system. The geotechnical and site survey are part of ongoing efforts with the City of San Leandro and are not part of the proposed project. Also, approximately 1,100 LED lamps would replace existing less efficient lighting and automation of existing HVAC equipment would be installed.

Existing City health and safety policies and procedures would be followed including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments. Additional policies and procedures would be implemented as necessary as new health and safety risks are identified. The required interconnection approval would be obtained through Pacific Gas & Electric.

The PV installation would be located adjacent to the Oakland International Airport. Regulatory authority regarding glare impacts from projects occurring outside of airport property is not clear, but for projects occurring on airport property the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has established guidelines for measuring the ocular impact of glare. If a project has no potential for glint or glare in the air traffic control tower (ATCT) cab and has no potential for glare or low potential for after-image to aircraft along final approach paths, the FAA would have no objection to the project. The recipient completed a solar glare hazard analysis to assess any glare impacts of the PV installation. The analysis showed that the ATCT would have no potential for glint or glare. Aircraft arriving along final approach paths to runways 28L, 28R and 33, would have only a low potential for temporary after-image. Analysis of the final approach path for runway 30 showed no potential for glare. Based on this analysis, DOE does not anticipate any adverse impacts to the airport or arriving aircraft as a result of project activities.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Endangered Species Program website (iPac) identifies 15 endangered or threatened species and 25 migratory birds that are listed as Birds of Conservation Concern that are known to, or are believed to occur near the project site. However, due to the lack of habitat for federally listed species at the site from the ongoing disturbance of land to excavate and fill in the drying beds, DOE has determined the proposed project would have no effect on threatened or endangered species in the area. There were no other resources of concern found during review of the project.

The project site is not within a designated floodplain or wetlands.

Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined the proposal fits 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. 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 :

Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs – State Energy Program
This NEPA Determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.
NEPA review completed by Diana Heyder, 09/07/17

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____



Casey Strickland

Date: _____

9/11/2017

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: _____