

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: All 50 States, DC, Five US Territories & One Federally-recognized Native American Tribe **STATE:** Mult

PROJECT TITLE : Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Program Year 2018 Formula Grants

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number : WAP-ALRD-2018
Procurement Instrument Number :
NEPA Control Number : GFO-ALRD-2018
CID Number :

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.

B5.17 Solar thermal systems

The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available smallscale solar thermal systems (including, but not limited to, solar hot water systems) located on or contiguous to a building, and 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.

B1.34 Lead-based paint containment, removal, and disposal

Containment, removal, and disposal of lead-based paint in accordance with applicable requirements (such as provisions relating to the certification of removal contractors and technicians at 40 CFR part 745, "Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention In Certain Residential Structures").

- B1.16 Asbestos removal** Removal of asbestos-containing materials from buildings in accordance with applicable requirements (such as 40 CFR part 61, "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants"; 40 CFR part 763, "Asbestos"; 29 CFR part 1910, subpart I, "Personal Protective Equipment"; and 29 CFR part 1926, "Safety and Health Regulations for Construction"; and appropriate state and local requirements, including certification of removal contractors and technicians).
- B3.1 Site characterization and environmental monitoring** Site characterization and environmental monitoring (including, but not limited to, siting, construction, modification, operation, and dismantlement and removal or otherwise proper closure (such as of a well) of characterization and monitoring devices, and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis). Such activities would be designed in conformance with applicable requirements and use best management practices to limit the potential effects of any resultant ground disturbance. Covered activities include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. (This class of actions excludes activities in aquatic environments. See B3.16 of this appendix for such activities.) Specific activities include, but are not limited to: (a) Geological, geophysical (such as gravity, magnetic, electrical, seismic, radar, and temperature gradient), geochemical, and engineering surveys and mapping, and the establishment of survey marks. Seismic techniques would not include large-scale reflection or refraction testing; (b) Installation and operation of field instruments (such as stream-gauging stations or flow-measuring devices, telemetry systems, geochemical monitoring tools, and geophysical exploration tools); (c) Drilling of wells for sampling or monitoring of groundwater or the vadose (unsaturated) zone, well logging, and installation of water-level recording devices in wells; (d) Aquifer and underground reservoir response testing; (e) Installation and operation of ambient air monitoring equipment; (f) Sampling and characterization of water, soil, rock, or contaminants (such as drilling using truck- or mobile-scale equipment, and modification, use, and plugging of boreholes); (g) Sampling and characterization of water effluents, air emissions, or solid waste streams; (h) Installation and operation of meteorological towers and associated activities (such as assessment of potential wind energy resources); (i) Sampling of flora or fauna; and (j) Archeological, historic, and cultural resource identification in compliance with 36 CFR part 800 and 43 CFR part 7.
- B2.2 Building and equipment instrumentation** Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment).

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy administers the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) as authorized by Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended. The goal of WAP is to increase the energy efficiency of dwellings owned or occupied by low-income persons, reduce their total residential expenditures, and improve their health and safety.

DOE anticipates making approximately 56 formula-based awards under the Fiscal Year 2018 WAP to states, territories, one tribal government, and the District of Columbia (hereinafter "States"). The total amount of DOE funding is not finalized at this time. Each home weatherized under WAP would receive approximately \$6,500 as determined by the site-specific outcomes of the energy audit process.

Allowable activities include:

1. Administrative activities associated with management of the designated Weatherization Office and management of programs and strategies in support of weatherization activities.
2. Development and implementation of training programs and strategies for weatherization effort, including initial home audits, final inspections and client education.
3. Purchase of vehicles and equipment needed for weatherization energy audits, installation of measures indicated below, and quality control inspections.
4. Weatherization activities provided that projects apply the restrictions of each state's programmatic agreement with SHPO, and are limited to:
 - a. Installation of various types of insulation;
 - b. Air sealing (caulk, door sweeps, weather-stripping, etc.)
 - c. Heating and cooling system safety checks
 - d. Energy efficiency modifications and retrofits (burner retrofits, replacement of controls – thermostats, valves and adjustments, clean and tune, and/or replacement of heating and cooling systems-including domestic hot water heaters)
 - e. Duct modifications and sealing (duct repairs and additions)
 - f. Multi-family building controls and efficiency improvements (ranging from time clocks to heat recovery)
 - g. Clean, repair and/or replace electric baseload appliances/fixtures (such as refrigerators, water heaters, and lighting)
 - h. Conversion to solar thermal installations, repairs and replacements
5. Energy-related health and safety measures (per DOE Weatherization Health and Safety guidance, WPN 17-7) including:
 - a. Asbestos collection, testing and encapsulation and/or limited removal

- b. Combustion gas appliance safety inspections
 - c. Air quality assessment and limited removal of formaldehyde, volatile organic compounds, flammable liquids, and other air pollutants
 - d. Gas and bulk fuel leak inspections
 - e. Limited testing and/or containment or disposal of refrigerant, asbestos, and mercury, and other materials generated during the course of WAP activities
 - f. Lead-based paint testing, containment and removal limited to the surfaces directly disturbed during WAP activities
 - g. Cleaning of mold limited to surface preparation for WAP activities
 - h. Conduct radon testing and precautionary measures, including but not limited to, covering exposed dirt floors with 6 mil or greater polyethylene sheeting, with sealant at all seams, walls and foundation penetrations
 - i. Inspect and install carbon monoxide and smoke alarms
 - j. Install ventilation as required by ASHRAE 62.2-2016 including blower door testing addressing infiltration, ventilation, and exhaust
6. Incidental and necessary energy-related repairs and replacements
- a. Repair and replacement of damaged windows and doors
 - b. Minor electrical and plumbing repairs

All incidental energy-related health and safety measures relating to hazardous materials identified during the WAP activities would be managed in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements.

Any project involving ground-breaking activities, new construction, or projects involving the installation of onsite renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources is subject to additional NEPA review by DOE.

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

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

Recipient must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) consistent with DOE's 2009 letter of delegation of authority regarding the NHPA.

Projects involving ground-breaking activities, new construction, or projects involving the installation of onsite renewable energy technology that generate electricity from renewable resources are subject to additional NEPA review by DOE.

Note to Specialist :

Weatherization & Intergovernmental Programs Office - WAP
This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.
NEPA review completed by Diana Heyder, 01/22/18

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

 Electronically
Signed By: Kristin Kerwin

Date: 2/5/2018

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: _____