

PMC-ND  
(1.08.09.13)

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



**RECIPIENT:** Collaborative Composites Solutions (CCS) Corporation

**STATE:** TN

**PROJECT TITLE :** Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
FOA-0000977	DE-EE0006926	GFO-0006926-BP4	GO6926

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:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination</b>                                | 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.)   |
| <b>A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations</b>                                 | Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.   |
| <b>B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment</b>                          | Installation or relocation and operation of machinery and equipment (including, but not limited to, laboratory equipment, electronic hardware, manufacturing machinery, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment), provided that uses of the installed or relocated items are consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure. Covered actions include modifications to an existing building, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area, that are necessary for equipment installation and relocation. Such modifications would not appreciably increase the footprint or height of the existing building or have the potential to cause significant changes to the type and magnitude of environmental impacts.                    |
| <b>B2.1 Workplace enhancements</b>  | Modifications within or contiguous to an existing structure, in a previously disturbed or developed area, to enhance workplace habitability (including, but not limited to, installation or improvements to lighting, radiation shielding, or heating/ventilating/air conditioning and its instrumentation, and noise reduction).  |
| <b>B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects</b> | 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 Collaborative Composite Solutions Corporation for the Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI) project. The Institute is planned as a consortium established under a Cooperative Agreement with the DOE with participation from sub-recipients of the award, private companies, universities and other educational institutions, as well as other state and federal government agencies and research organizations. IACMI's technology development and demonstration programs would focus on reducing technical risk and developing a robust supply chain to support growing applications of advanced composites in vehicles, wind energy and compressed gas storage. Participating states would engage their economic development and education programs to encourage new business formation and develop a capable workforce to serve the composites industry. This project has five budget periods but only project activities within budget periods 1, 2, 3, and 4 (BP1, BP2, BP3, and BP4) have been defined. DOE has previously completed three NEPA Determinations for activities in each BP (GFO-0006926-001; 06/04/2015, GFO-0006926-002; 01/26/16, GFO-0006926-BP3; 1/23/17) and one NEPA Determination specific to activities at the Scale-up Facility (SUF) operated by Michigan State University (GFO-0006929-003; 02/25/16). This NEPA Determination is specific to BP4 only. Further NEPA review will be required for the remaining budget period once those activities have been defined and negotiated.

Each task/subtask in BP4 would be completed by either the prime recipient or one of the project partners. For the project partners listed in question 2b of the completed EQ1 (which includes the document "Mod 15\_EQ-1 Form 2b - Updated 03122018.docx" attached in the Project Management Center), the scope of work for proposed activities in BP4 are generally laboratory scale operations; equipment installation; data analysis and modeling; or educational, managerial, and reporting activities. The location of the facilities and description of proposed activities for the prime recipient and each partner are detailed within question 2b of the completed EQ1 for the project. Initially, entries detailed in question 2b include only those projects approved by the contracting officer at the start of BP4. Additional entries in question 2b may be incorporated as new partners are brought into the IACMI project and specific sites are identified as long as these additional entries conform to the rationale and CXs applied in this NEPA Determination. Any new partners that do not fit the above will be required to submit separate EQ1s for further review.

Design plans are being finalized for the construction of interior walls at the SUF, for additional office space on the mezzanine that was constructed in a high bay of the facility to accommodate increasing staff and interns, as well as temporary space for project teams. All work would be inside the building, with no visible change to the exterior.

All facilities other than the SUF would conduct activities consistent with current operations and expansion or modification of facilities is not expected to occur in BP4, beyond what has already been reviewed in a previous NEPA determination, or is outlined in this NEPA Determination. None of the activities occurring at any of the listed facilities including the construction activities at the SUF would require any new permits, licenses or authorizations for BP4 activities. No new waste streams or effluents would be produced as a result of the proposed activities in BP4. DOE does not anticipate any impacts to resources of concern due to the proposed activities in BP4.

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 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 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 Periods 5 activities**

This restriction does not preclude you from:

**Budget Periods 1, 2, 3 and 4 activities**

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.

The recipient must submit engineering and design plans for the proposed modifications at the Scale-up Facility operated by Michigan State University to the DOE Project Officer and NEPA Specialist in advance of any related construction activity.

The recipient is required to consult with the DOE Project Officer and NEPA Specialist regarding any project, beyond what is proposed in this NEPA determination, that would result in:

- changes in function, use, or operation of existing facilities, and/or
- modifications to existing facilities, and/or
- ground disturbing or new construction activities

prior to initiating any of these activities in order to determine whether additional NEPA review is required.

Note to Specialist :

This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.  
Advanced Manufacturing Office  
Diana Heyder 03/12/18

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 3/13/2018  
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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager