

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: State of Illinois. Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, Office of
Community Assistance

STATE: IL

PROJECT TITLE: Illinois WAP Multi-Family Solar Photovoltaic Pilot Project (Lincoln Perry Apartments)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
WAP-ALRD-2019	DE-EE0007917	GFO-0007917-001	

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Policy 451.1), 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.)

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 State of Illinois, through the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, Office of Community Assistance to install a 256.8 kW DC solar photovoltaic (PV) system on the roof of the two buildings (approximately 128.4 kW on each building) that comprise the 258 unit Lincoln Perry Apartment complex in Chicago, IL. The Chicago Housing Authority oversees the low-income buildings.

A solar assessment was completed to determine placement of the PV panels on the roofs of the two buildings, shading analysis, potential solar capacity on the rooftops, information on electrical system access, and electricity generation and preliminary financial analysis. Meter aggregation, would be implemented to allow multiple customers to receive utility bill credits for the energy produced from the single solar PV system located at the site. The energy savings would be credited equally across all tenants in the building.

The solar panels would cover a majority of the available rooftop space. The two buildings are both nine-stories, so the rooftop panels would not be visible from ground level. A ballast racking system would be installed and would require minor electrical modifications at both buildings for connections. No ground disturbance would be required for the project. All requisite building permits and inter-connection agreements would be obtained.

Additional energy efficiency measures which would be funded under the state's formula award (NEPA determination GFO-WAP-ALRD-2019; 3/5/2019), would also be installed on the two buildings.

The state of Illinois must adhere to their DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement with their State Historic Preservation Office for all proposed activities. Any changes to the project activities or locations are subject to additional NEPA review by DOE and are not authorized for Federal funding unless and until the Contracting Officer provides written authorization on those additions or modifications.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

[Weatherization & Intergovernmental Programs Office - WAP](#)
[This NEPA Determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.](#)
[NEPA review completed by Diana Heyder, 08/1/19](#)

FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATIONS

The proposed action (or the part of the proposal defined in the Rationale above) fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D. To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposed action has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  _____ Date: 8/2/2019
NEPA Compliance Officer

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

- Field Office Manager review not required
 Field Office Manager review required

BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :

Field Office Manager's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Field Office Manager