

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: US Department of Energy

STATE: DC

PROJECT
TITLE: Prize: Fish Protection

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number Procurement Instrument Number NEPA Control Number CID Number
GFO-FishProtectionPrize-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:

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.)

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), is proposing to authorize the administration of a prize competition regarding fish protection (Fish Protection Prize). The goal of the prize is to improve fish exclusion technologies for water diversions and intakes. The proposed prize competition is a follow up to the 2019 Fish Exclusion Prize administered by Reclamation in collaboration with DOE. That competition received a previous DOE NEPA determination (GFO-FISHPRIZE-001; CX A11, 05/08/2019).

The Fish Protection Prize would consist of three stages.

Stage one (Concept) would be limited to submission of ideas. Concept papers would include a technical narrative which describes the technical innovation, technical feasibility, and market feasibility, and a description of a research and development plan for the concept. In addition, competitors would submit a 90-second video summary and a one-page summary slide of their concept. Up to 10 competitors would be chosen to proceed to stage two, the incubation stage.

Stage two (Incubate) would involve partnering participants chosen to continue with the Pacific Northwest National Lab (PNNL). PNNL would provide up to 50 hours of technical support and advice. Work at PNNL could include analysis, communications support, and light technical support. At the end of stage two participants would submit a revised technical narrative and a pitch slide deck. All participants who successfully submit the revised technical report and slide deck would be invited to participate in stage three, the pitch contest.

Stage three (Pitch Contest) would consist of participants presenting their idea to a live audience with a ten minute pitch and ten minutes of questions and answers. Participants would be judged on their technical narrative as well as their pitch. Up to three participants would be chosen to receive combined cash prizes as well as additional technical support from a DOE national lab and Reclamation.

Any work proposed to be conducted at a federal facility may be subject to additional NEPA review by the cognizant federal official and must meet the applicable health and safety requirements of the facility.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Water Power Technology Office
Roak Parker 1/21/2020

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: _____

 Electronically
Signed By: **Roak Parker**
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 1/22/2020**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: _____

Field Office Manager

Date: _____