

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: The Research Foundation of CUNY on behalf of City College

STATE: NY

PROJECT TITLE: Platform for Remote Deployment and Training for Enhanced Building Operation Practices (Building Re-Tuning and On-going Commissioning)

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Funding Opportunity Announcement Number | Procurement Instrument Number | NEPA Control Number | CID Number |
| DE-FOA-0002099 | DE-EE0009087 | GFO-0009087-001 | |

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.)

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to City University of New York: City College (CUNY) to increase and support the adoption of enhanced building operating best practices through the establishment of educational programs. CUNY would develop a web-based platform to host instructional tools designed to train users in building operations and processes/technologies to increase energy efficiency.

The project would be completed over two Budget Periods (BPs), with a Go/No-Go Decision Point in between each BP. BP1 would focus on stakeholder engagement and development of the web-based training platform. Proposed project activities would include establishment/development of web-based tools, content development, web-site testing, industry outreach/engagement, and operational planning for web-site maintenance. BP2 would focus on enrolling participants and imparting training on a pilot basis. Proposed project activities would include registration of entities and individuals to use the platform, engagement with participants/users, evaluation of user experiences, and business plan development.

CUNY would recruit participants for the pilot training once the project has started. Potential participants would be recruited via targeted outreach to industry partners. Pilot users would engage with the platform remotely over a 9 month period. Likewise, all lessons and training would be given remotely.

All project activities would be coordinated by CUNY and performed at existing, purpose-built locations. CUNY would develop educational materials, conduct stakeholder outreach, and impart web and classroom-based training from its campus in New York City, NY. Project partner Intellimation would assist with the development of educational materials and perform data analysis/modeling from its office space in Norristown, PA. Project partner Open Source Strategies would perform website development and hosting from its office space in Los Angeles, CA. No facility modifications, construction of new facilities, ground disturbing activities or changes, to the use, mission, or operation of existing facilities would be required for any of the project activities. Likewise, no additional permits or authorizations would be required.

Because project work would be limited to computer-based activities and stakeholder engagement, no significant health and safety risks are anticipated. Nonetheless, CUNY and its project partners would adhere to established corporate health and safety policies and procedures. CUNY and its project partners would observe all applicable Federal, state, and local health, safety, and environmental regulations.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Building Technologies Office

This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.

Review completed by Jonathan Hartman on 5/14/2019

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: _____



Casey Strickland

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 5/14/2020

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: _____