

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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

**RECIPIENT:** Drug Enforcement Administration**STATE:** TX**PROJECT TITLE:** DEA Aviation Energy and Resilience Project

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0002143	DE-EE0009040	GFO-0009040-001	

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.)

A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

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.

B5.16 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 Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to perform an energy efficiency audit and complete planning for the installation of a 900 kilowatt (kW) solar photovoltaic (PV) array on the rooftop of the DEA's Aviation Operations Center (AOC) at the Alliance Airport in Fort

Worth, Texas. The project would be structured utilizing an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC), in conjunction with an Energy Sales Agreement (ESA).

Proposed work would encompass two broad areas: Performance of an investment grade audit (IGA) and planning for solar PV array installation. The IGA would be performed by a qualified Energy Service Company (ESCO) selected through the ESPC vehicle. The ESCO would assess energy, water, and jet fuel consumption on the site and would make recommendations to improve energy efficiency in these areas.

Planning work for the installation of the solar PV array would detail the design, construction, installation, and implementation of the array. The PV array itself would consist of several hundred panels, which would be roof-mount and connected to the existing electricity grid. The array would likely require minor facility modifications. The exact nature of the modifications would be dependent on the results of on-site assessments. Modifications could include cosmetic changes to nearby utility lines or electrical equipment such as transformers and minor, temporary land disturbances adjacent to the proposed project site for construction related activities and staging. Depending on the results of the IGA, portions of lawn/turf may also be removed and subsequently replaced with native plant species in order to improve water usage. Existing roads and parking areas would be used to access all areas of the project site. No changes in the use, mission, or operation of any existing facilities would occur.

The DEA would coordinate with the local electricity transmission and distribution provider to establish the required grid connection and obtain any necessary permits. Building permits related to the installation of equipment may also be required by the City of Fort Worth. The DEA would obtain any and all applicable permits prior to undertaking installation work.

Project work would include the use and handling of heavy equipment and power tools. Potential hazards commonly associated with solar PV installation would be present, including fall hazards, electric hazards, and pinch hazards. In order to mitigate against these potential risks, a site-specific health and safety plan would be developed. Protocols to be observed would include personnel training, the use of personal protective equipment, and project monitoring. Project personnel would adhere to all applicable Federal, state, and local health, safety, and environmental regulations.

Because the installation of the solar PV system would occur within the bounds of an established airport, there is potential for glare/glint to present a hazard for aircraft flying overhead. In order to address this, the DEA would perform a glare/glint hazard analysis adhering to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines. If required, the panels would be angled away from the flight path, or other locational mitigation would be performed, as appropriate.

Because the AOC is owned and operated by the DEA, a Federal agency, it is required to comply with NEPA for this project. This would include completing an environmental review for the project including any necessary consultations and geotechnical or other surveys prior to a decision whether to proceed. If the DEA proceeds with the proposed project after their NEPA review they would be required to obtain all necessary permits and follow appropriate environment, health and safety measures. The DEA must provide its final NEPA determination(s) to their DOE FEMP Technical Project Officer or point of contact.

This DOE grant is a secondary funding source for this project and comprises approximately 32% of total project funding. Primary funding will come from the DEA.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

The Recipient is a Federal agency and is also required to comply with NEPA. When the Recipient has completed its NEPA review process for the proposed project, the Recipient will provide its final NEPA determination(s) to their DOE FEMP Technical Project Officer or point of contact. Assessments of potential measures to reduce energy, water, and jet fuel consumption on-site would also be performed.

The Recipient must adhere to all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines concerning solar PV installations in order to avoid potential hazards associated with glare/glint.

Notes:

Federal Energy Management Program
This NEPA determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.
Review completed by Jonathan Hartman, 6/16/2020

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: 6/18/2020

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: _____