

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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

**RECIPIENT:** Opus One Solutions**STATE:** NY

PROJECT TITLE: SECURITY CONSTRAINED ECONOMIC OPTIMIZATION OF PV AND OTHER DISTRIBUTED ASSETS

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
1495-1637	DE-EE0008010	GFO-0008010-003	GO8010

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.)

B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects 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 funding to Opus One Solutions (USA) Corporation (Opus USA) to design, develop and demonstrate an integrated system.

DOE completed a NEPA Determination for this project on August 10, 2017 (GFO-0008010-001, CX A9, B3.6). At that time, Advanced Microgrid Solutions (AMS) was the prime recipient. The award was later novated to Opus USA. DOE completed a second NEPA Determination on July 25, 2018 (GFO-0008010-002, CX A9, B3.6), which reviewed the novated project. Since that time, Opus USA's original utility partner, Georgetown Utility Services (GUS), has been replaced by Commonwealth Edison (ComEd). Field demonstration activities that were originally proposed to be performed at facilities operated by GUS would instead be performed at a demonstration site operated by ComEd.

A site has not yet been selected for field demonstration activities. A meaningful NEPA review assessing potential impacts cannot be conducted until a site has been identified. Accordingly, DOE is restricting all field demonstration activities for this award. These activities will be reviewed once a site has been selected and all applicable information has been submitted to DOE for review. Opus USA is authorized to complete all other project activities, which remain unchanged from previous reviews.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination.

The NEPA Determination applies to the following Topic Areas, Budget Periods, and/or tasks:

Tasks 1 – 7 and 9 - 25

The NEPA Determination does not apply to the following Topic Area, Budget Periods, and/or tasks:

Task 8: Deploy Utility Microgrid Energy Storage System

Notes:

[Solar Energy Technologies Office](#)

[This NEPA determination requires a tailored NEPA Provision.](#)

[NEPA review completed by Jonathan Hartman, 04/07/2021](#)

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.

A portion of the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review. The NEPA Provision identifies Topic Areas, Budget Periods, tasks, and/or subtasks that are subject to additional NEPA review.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

 **Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin**
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 4/8/2021

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: _____