

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



RECIPIENT: [UCLA](#)

STATE: [CA](#)

PROJECT TITLE : [Clean Energy Smart Manufacturing Innovation Institute \(CESMII\)](#)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0001263	DE-EE0007613	GFO-0007613-BP5	G07613

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.

**[B1.31
Installation or
relocation of
machinery
and
equipment](#)**

Installation or relocation and operation of machinery and equipment (including, but not limited to, laboratory equipment, electronic hardware, manufacturing machinery, maintenance equipment, and health and safety equipment), provided that uses of the installed or relocated items are consistent with the general missions of the receiving structure. Covered actions include modifications to an existing building, within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area, that are necessary for equipment installation and relocation. Such modifications would not appreciably increase the footprint or height of the existing building or have the potential to cause significant changes to the type and magnitude of environmental impacts.

**[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 the Clean Energy Smart Manufacturing Innovation Institute (CESMII) for DOE's third Manufacturing Innovation Institute under the Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative. The purpose of the Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative is to strengthen U.S. clean energy manufacturing competitiveness and to increase U.S. manufacturing competitiveness across the board by boosting energy productivity and leveraging low-cost domestic energy resources as fuels and feedstocks. CESMII is funded under a Cooperative Agreement with the DOE and with participation from numerous sub-recipients working as a distributed network of Smart Manufacturing Innovation Centers (SMICs). These SMICs would develop an integrated system of advanced sensors, controls, platforms, and modeling across a diverse portfolio to drive technology, manufacturing practice, and technical projects and services to achieve widespread Smart Manufacturing (SM) and industry driven transformation.

This project has five budget periods (BPs). DOE previously completed NEPA Determinations for BP1, BP2, BP3, and BP4 activities (GFO-0007613-001 on 12/07/2016, CX A9, A11, B1.31, B2.1; GFO-0007613-BP2 on 3/6/2018, CX A9, A11, B1.31, B2.1; GFO-0007613-BP3 on 2/3/2020, CX A9, A11, B1.31, B3.6; and GFO-0007613-BP4 on 2/3/2020, CX A9, A11, B1.31, B3.6). BP5 activities have now been defined, therefore this NEPA Determination is specific to BP5 only.

Each task/subtask in BP5 would be completed by either the prime recipient or one of the sub-recipients. The prime recipient and the sub-recipients are listed in the document "EQ-1-MOD0022 BP5 added NEPA - CESMII Prime Subs

V2.1" attached in the Project Management Center rather than in the 2b table in the EQ1. All BP5 activities are similar types of work to those conducted in previous budget periods which include intellectual, academic, and analytical activities with research and development limited to five areas: management and operations; technology research and development including evaluation and analysis; education and workforce development; CESMII sustainability; and communications and outreach.

In addition to ongoing Institute management and operations, BP5 activities would include execution of CESMII's Technology, Education and Workforce Development (EWD), SMIC, and Outreach initiatives. CESMII would continue to operate the existing SMICs under the SMIC model launched in BP3. For BP5, CESMII is launching four new SMIC centers based on RFP3 selection process conducted in BP4. The new SMIC locations are Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH), Feyen Zylstra Inc (Grand Rapids, MI), Penn State University (New Kensington, PA), and Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN). BP5 technology initiatives are to accelerate the accomplishment of institute goals related to energy productivity and broad demonstration of SM solutions across multiple industry sectors by developing and expanding SM Technologies identified in the Institute Roadmap (Task 1.9). This would include launching of project portfolios and an anticipated final RFP call to address specific technology gaps critical for solving manufacturing use cases and expanding capabilities in the SM Innovation Platform and SM Marketplace to support the demonstration and deployment of these solutions in solving real manufacturing problems.

The location of the facilities and descriptions of proposed activities for the prime recipient and each sub-recipient are detailed within "EQ-1-MOD0022 BP5 added NEPA - CESMII Prime Subs V2.1". Initially, entries include only those projects approved by the contracting officer at the start of BP5. Additional entries in the document may be incorporated as new sub-recipients are brought into the CESMII project and specific sites are identified as long as the activities of the new sub-recipients conform to the rationale and CXs applied in this NEPA Determination. New sub-recipients or sites that do not fit the above description of activities will be required to submit separate EQ-1s for further review.

None of the activities occurring at any of the listed facilities would require any new permits, licenses, or authorizations for BP5 activities. All listed facilities would conduct activities consistent with current operations and would not be expanded or modified beyond small, nonstructural improvements for equipment installation. Manufacturing activities at some locations would require the use of various hazardous materials, including metals and industrial solvents with requirements for high temperatures. All storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous materials and protocols for high temperature activities would be in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations, as well as health and safety policies and procedures at each facility.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

The Recipient is required to consult with the DOE Project Officer and NEPA Specialist regarding any activities that would result in:

- *changes to existing use of facilities, and/or
- *modifications to existing facilities, and/or
- *ground disturbing or new construction activities

prior to initiating any of these activities in order to determine whether additional NEPA review is required.

If the Recipient moves forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, the Recipient is doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Notes:

Advanced Manufacturing Office

This NEPA determination requires legal review of the tailored NEPA provision.

Review completed by Shaina Aguilar on 4/12/22.

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: Casey Strickland Date: 4/15/2022
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