

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



RECIPIENT: NREL

STATE: CO

PROJECT TITLE : NREL-23-007 CCHRC electrical in parking area - Fairbanks, AK

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	GFO-NREL-23-007	GO28308

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:

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.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) proposes to install electrical infrastructure in the parking lot of the Cold Climate Housing Research Center's (CCHRC) Research and Testing Facility (RTF) located at 955 Draanjik Drive in Fairbanks, Alaska, a facility that is leased by DOE for NREL.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide electrical plug-in access for staff so that their vehicles can start efficiently during extremely cold temperatures. The new outlets would support eight head bolt heaters for staff use on the northwest corner of the building. Two additional head bolt outlets would be installed to provide power for future research and additional plug-ins for employee parking. The outlets would be installed in the northwest parking lot area and would be used by NREL staff only. Signage would also be installed to indicate they are for staff use only.

To support the project, electrical wiring would be installed in buried conduit; vertical posts would be installed to support the outlets; and five, 20-amp circuits would be installed to provide sufficient power. The new electrical infrastructure would connect to the building's existing power supply.

Minor ground disturbance would be performed to install the conduit. All work would be performed by qualified personnel, including a qualified electrical contractor. NREL staff would maintain and repair the equipment for the duration of the lease.

Analysis

The proposed project would not result in direct or indirect impacts to the environment. Non-hazardous waste would be generated, such as cardboard and trash, and would be disposed of or recycled in accordance with requirements. Erosion control measures would be used as appropriate during earthwork.

All work would occur in areas that have been previously disturbed, and the proposed project would not result in a change to the use, mission, or operation of the facility.

Workers could potentially be exposed to physical hazards during execution of the work. Existing NREL health and safety policies and procedures would be followed, including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, and monitoring. All work would be conducted in accordance with NREL's written procedures or authorized via a Safe Work Permit.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

NREL

Completed by Nicole Serio, 4/14/2023

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:  _____ Date: 4/19/2023
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