

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



**RECIPIENT:** Dairyland Power Cooperative, Sub-recipient; Wisconsin SEO

**STATE:** WI

**PROJECT TITLE:** Wisconsin Energy Innovation Grant Program 2022

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
SEP-ALRD-2020	DE-EE0008669	GFO-0008669-030	

**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:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination</b>       | 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.)  |
| <b>B1.31 Installation or relocation of machinery and equipment</b> | 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 (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to Dairyland Power Cooperative to implement microgrid management, including communications installation and configuration at two buildings owned by the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The proposed award would connect two existing microgrids and install a controller to integrate the onsite battery storage into utility grid software and operations. The battery storage systems are existing installations. Work would be done at the Bad River Tribal Health Center and the Bad River Wastewater Treatment Plant (Ashland, WI), with the support of the Bad River Band. Both sites would have a grid edge device installed to enable communication between the utility load management software and the existing controllers for the battery storage systems, solar installations, and generator at each site.

Award activities involve the installation of networking and communications equipment, including the installation of a cellular modem in an existing control enclosure to establish a link to the existing energy management system. If the equipment is not adequate, a cellular modem would also be installed in one of the existing equipment boxes in order to establish a link to the energy management software. Any controllers needed would be attached to existing sensors and monitoring technology.

There would be no ground disturbing activities, and no trenching would take place. All proposed activities would occur inside the existing container that houses control equipment at each site and serves as the utility room for control equipment.

DOE has considered potential impacts on resources of concern, including those of an ecological, historical, cultural, and socioeconomic nature, and does not anticipate impacts on these resources.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

SCEP - Office of State and Community Energy Programs- State Energy Program  
NEPA review completed by Alex Colling on 06/14/2023.

**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:  **Electronically Signed By: Casey Strickland** Date: 6/29/2023  
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