

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



**RECIPIENT:** U.S. Department of Energy - Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains    **STATE:** Mult

**PROJECT TITLE :** Clean Energy and Manufacturing Workforce Training and Technical Assistance Awards

**Funding Opportunity Announcement Number**    **Procurement Instrument Number**    **NEPA Control Number**    **CID Number**  
GFO-PIA-CEMWTAA-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:

<b>A8 Awards of certain contracts</b>	Awards of contracts for technical support services, management and operation of a government-owned facility, and personal services.
<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>A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations</b>	Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) entered into a Partnership Intermediary Agreement (PIA) with partnership intermediary (PI) DEFENSEWERX in April 2023 for a 5-year pilot. Through the PIA, DOE is expanding its capabilities to connect and engage with the broader energy and national security ecosystem and address gaps facing companies, organizations and communities seeking to engage with DOE and/or develop, scale, commercialize, deploy, and adopt technologies relevant to DOE's mission.

DOE is proposing to utilize the PIA to administer three competitive solicitations:

**Track 1 – Pilot, Planning, and Capacity-Building:** awards for workforce development programs to establish or strengthen their manufacturing training programs and test approaches to improving energy performance at SMMs with no-cost technical assistance (TA). Awardees would use funds to deepen their partnerships with employers, execute on their submitted manufacturing workforce development plan, expand their capabilities to support industrial decarbonization efforts, and prepare to apply for a Track 2 award during the next solicitation cycle.

**Track 2 – Execution and Scale.** Awards for workforce development programs to expand their manufacturing workforce development programs and provide SMMs with no-cost TA. Awardees would use funds to train students, apprentices, and incumbent workers in alignment with their proposals, place them in high-quality jobs, and provide no-cost services for SMMs.

**Track 3 – Multi-Institution.** Awards for consortia workforce development programs to develop and support multiple IACs (5-15+) within their network of members. Awardees would receive funds and TA to develop a custom solicitation process to select new IACs from amongst their members and then support these sub-awardees to grow and strengthen their workforce and manufacturer service programs.

Award activities would consist exclusively of intellectual, academic, and analytical activities, such as information gathering, data analysis, document preparation, information dissemination, and technical advice/assistance. Based on the types of activities proposed, DOE does not anticipate any adverse impacts to sensitive resources as a result of the utilization of the PIA as described above.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESC)  
NEPA review completed by Melissa Parker, 01/31/24

**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:  Casey Strickland Date: 2/5/2024  
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