

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



RECIPIENT: City of Togiak

STATE: AK

PROJECT TITLE : Heat Recovery System Expansion

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0002032	EE0010146	GFO-0010146-001	GO126

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.)

B5.14 Combined heat and power or cogeneration systems

Conversion to, replacement of, or modification of combined heat and power or cogeneration systems (the sequential or simultaneous production of multiple forms of energy, such as thermal and electrical energy, in a single integrated system) at existing facilities, provided that the conversion, replacement, or modification would not have the potential to cause a significant increase in the quantity or rate of air emissions and would not have the potential to cause significant impacts to water resources.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to administer Congressionally Directed Spending to the City of Togiak, Alaska for the connection of an existing heat recovery system to two buildings (police station and clinic/ senior center) in Togiak, Alaska. The new connections would require the installation of underground insulated glycol piping to the buildings, and the installation of heat exchangers and BTU meters. Additionally, employees would be trained in the maintenance and operation of the system.

DOE previously completed a NEPA Determination (ND) (GFO-0000126-001; A9 and B5.14; 8/8/2019) for the initial installation of the heat recovery system, funded through the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs. It linked the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative Power Plant (AVECPP) with four existing city facilities (water treatment plant, city office, city shop, and library). This ND reviews extending the system to two additional city facilities (police station and city clinic/ senior center (the clinic and senior center are collocated in a single building)).

Award activities would include a verification study, engineering, construction/ installation actions, as well as training. Approximately 450 linear feet of insulated glycol piping would be trenched between the existing heat recovery loop connection port (stub-out) and the two additional buildings. All ground disturbing work would occur in-town, within existing roads and pre-disturbed municipal lots.

Activities would occur within the 100-year floodplain to existing facilities and homes within the community as minor modifications to improve environmental conditions but would not provide increased capacity that would support increased floodplain development. Most of the improvements would occur below grade which would not impact flood flows within the floodplain.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) completed environmental reviews and determinations for the initial heat recovery installation in 2019. This included consultation with the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology (AOHA), which concurred with a finding of no historic properties affected. Furthermore, the ANTHC consulted with AOHA in 2022 for the expansion of the system to the two additional facilities. AOHA found no historic properties would be affected by the proposed expansion. Although no historic resources are known to occur near the project location, DOE will require the following as part of best management practices for the project: If during project activities the recipient or their staff encounters any cultural material (i.e. historic or prehistoric), all activities must cease in the vicinity of the discovery immediately. The recipient must inform ANTHC, the Alaska SHPO and the DOE Project Officer of the discovery so that an evaluation of the discovery can be completed prior to continuing work.

Minimal air emissions would occur during construction from the use of small-scale construction equipment and vehicles. Significant air impacts are not anticipated as construction equipment and vehicle use would be temporary and intermittent. Project activities would involve hazards associated with routine construction activities, working in confined spaces, and working with gas. Any risks working with hazards would be mitigated through established governmental safety and construction protocols. The City of Togiak would observe all applicable health, safety, and environmental regulations. DOE does not anticipate any impacts to resources of concern due to the proposed activities of the project.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

If during project activities the Recipient or their staff encounters any cultural material (i.e. historic or prehistoric), all activities must cease in the vicinity of the discovery immediately. The recipient must inform ANTHC, the AOHA and the DOE Project Officer of the discovery so that an evaluation of the discovery can be completed prior to continuing work.

Notes:

Industrial Efficiency and Decarbonization Office
This NEPA determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.
Review completed by Amy Lukens on 02/07/2024.

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
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 2/9/2024

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: _____