

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



RECIPIENT: Town of Morrisville

STATE: NC

PROJECT TITLE: Solar Panel Installations on Town Facilities

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
Congressionally Directed Spending	DE-EE0010811	GFO-0010811-001	GO10811

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:

- | | |
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| 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.) |
| B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems | The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available solar photovoltaic systems located on a building or other structure (such as rooftop, parking lot or facility, and mounted to signage, lighting, gates, or fences), or if located on land, generally comprising less than 10 acres within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices. |

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to administer Congressionally Directed Spending to the Town of Morrisville (Town) to design and install solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays at multiple locations. The installations would occur on municipal-owned buildings.

Project activities at each installation site would be as follows:

1. Town Hall: A 59-kilowatt (kW) rooftop solar PV array would be installed.
2. Connector Building: A 20 kW rooftop solar PV array would be installed.
3. Morrisville Aquatic and Fitness Center (MAFC): A 62 kW rooftop solar PV array would be installed.
4. The MAFC Parking Lot: A 54 kW canopy-mounted solar PV array would be installed.

The proposed installation would involve commercially available solar PV arrays and associated racking system being added to the existing roof space of the buildings and a canopy-mounted solar PV array to the existing parking lot location. Inverters would be added to electrical closets or other areas as defined by design activities. Ground disturbing activities would be limited to the existing MAFC parking lot during the installation of the canopy-mounted solar PV being proposed at this site. These ground disturbing activities would include concrete boring for installation of structural components and trenching for conduit placement to connect to the existing grid. No change in the use, mission, or operation of existing facilities would arise out of this effort.

Initial project activities would include the selection of a North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners project contractor. The project contractor would design and install the solar PV arrays at the four locations identified above, including performing the associated site preparation activities.

The project contractor would follow all State building codes, fire marshal guidance, and town ordinances. All required building permits, licenses, and/or authorizations, including an interconnection agreement between Duke Energy and the Town would be obtained by the project contractor prior to construction activities. The proposed solar PV array additions would meet State building codes and fire safety requirements. No known hazardous materials would be handled or brought into contact with the public; additionally, the work site would be cordoned off from public access during installation.

DOE has considered the scale, duration, and nature of the proposed activities to determine potential impacts on resources, including those of an ecological, historical, cultural, and socioeconomic nature. DOE does not anticipate

impacts on these resources which would be considered significant or require DOE to consult with other agencies or stakeholders.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO)
Review completed by Brittany White on 3/11/2024

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:  _____ Date: 3/19/2024
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