

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



**RECIPIENT:** Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

**STATE:** CA

**PROJECT TITLE:** SMUD Neighborhood Electrification Project

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
NA	DE-SE0000737	GFO-SE0000737-001	

**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:

**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.)

**A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations** Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

**B1.16 Asbestos removal** Removal of asbestos-containing materials from buildings in accordance with applicable requirements (such as 40 CFR part 61, "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants"; 40 CFR part 763, "Asbestos"; 29 CFR part 1910, subpart I, "Personal Protective Equipment"; and 29 CFR part 1926, "Safety and Health Regulations for Construction"; and appropriate state and local requirements, including certification of removal contractors and technicians).

**B1.34 Lead-based paint containment, removal, and disposal** Containment, removal, and disposal of lead-based paint in accordance with applicable requirements (such as provisions relating to the certification of removal contractors and technicians at 40 CFR part 745, "Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention In Certain Residential Structures").

**B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water** (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

**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.

**B5.23 Electric vehicle charging stations**

The installation, modification, operation, and removal of electric vehicle charging stations, using commercially available technology, within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions are limited to areas where access and parking are 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 (CDS) to the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) to support the neighborhood electrification and weatherization project in the Meadowview community of Sacramento, California. Project activities would occur at approximately 300 residential properties which are not currently known.

Project activities would include SMUD engaging with the Meadowview community to raise awareness about the project and to identify individual residences to perform home energy audits. Recruited customers would receive a home energy assessment and based on individual assessments, SMUD would complete weatherization and electrification activities. The following activities could be completed at each home provided that activities adhere to the requirements of California's Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement with DOE (including consultation for activities that occur in existing buildings, installation of battery storage systems, and potential ground disturbance from installation of 10 square foot concrete pads adjacent to structures), are appropriately sized, and are limited to:

1. Replacement of existing appliances with energy efficiency units
2. Battery storage installations
3. Electric vehicle equipment installations
4. Weatherization activities
5. Heating and cooling efficiency improvements
6. Energy efficiency improvements
7. Electric panel and circuit upgrade activities
8. Roof repairs and replacements
9. Solar photovoltaic system installations not to exceed 8kW
10. Water heating improvements and water saving measures
11. Fire alarm and carbon monoxide detector installations
12. Minor home repairs restricted to areas of implementing weatherization and electrification measures

The complete list of potential activities can be found in the attached spreadsheet (GFO-SE0000737-001\_SMUD Neighborhood Electrification Project Activities). Project activities would improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce utility costs for Meadowview residents.

Activities not listed above, including ground disturbing activities beyond the installation of a concrete pad adjacent to the structure not to exceed 10 square feet, and trimming or removal of trees, are not included under this NEPA determination and are subject to additional NEPA review and approval by DOE. For activities/projects requiring additional NEPA review, the recipient must complete the environmental questionnaire (EQ-1) found at <https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/NEPA.aspx> and receive notification from DOE that the NEPA review has been completed and approved by the Contracting Officer prior to initiating the project or activities.

Project activities would involve hazards associated with construction, electrical work, and the potential disturbance of insulation containing asbestos. The contractor would ensure proper materials handling and procedures. All hazardous materials would be managed in accordance with Federal, state, and local environmental regulations; all safety policies and procedures, including the use of personal protective equipment, would be followed. Award activities would pose no risk to residents or the public. No change in the use, mission, or operation of existing facilities would arise out of this effort.

DOE has completed a review considering 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 would be considered significant or require DOE to consult with other agencies or stakeholders.

The recipient is working directly with their State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to ensure protection of cultural resources during the course of project activities, per their Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement with DOE and the California SHPO.

## NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination.

The NEPA Determination applies to the following Topic Areas, Budget Periods, and/or tasks:

This NEPA Determination only applies to activities funded by the Congressionally Directed Spending Project, "Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Neighborhood Electrification Project. Activities must fit within the restrictions of this NEPA determination, and the Recipient must adhere to the restrictions of their DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement.

The NEPA Determination does not apply to the following Topic Area, Budget Periods, and/or tasks:

This NEPA Determination does NOT apply to activities funded by sources other than the Congressionally Directed Spending Project, "Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Neighborhood Electrification Project, or to activities that do not fit within the restrictions of this NEPA determination listed above, or to activities that do not adhere to the restrictions of the Recipient's DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

1. Activities not listed including ground disturbing activities (beyond the installation of a 10 square foot concrete pad adjacent to the structure), tree removal and tree trimming, are subject to additional NEPA review and approval by DOE. For activities requiring additional NEPA review, the Recipient must complete the environmental questionnaire found at <https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/NEPA.aspx> and receive notification from DOE that the NEPA review has been completed. A DOE Contracting Officer must provide approval prior to initiating the project or activities.
2. This authorization does not include activities where the following elements exist: extraordinary circumstances; cumulative impacts or connected actions that may lead to significant effects on the human environment; or any inconsistency with the "integral elements" (as contained in 10 CFR Part 1021, Appendix B) as they relate to a particular project.
3. The Recipient must identify and promptly notify DOE of extraordinary circumstances, cumulative impacts or connected actions that may lead to significant effects on the human environment, or any inconsistency with the "integral elements" (as contained in 10 CFR Part 1021, Appendix B) as they relate to project activities.
4. The Recipient must adhere to the terms and restrictions of its DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement. DOE executed historic preservation programmatic agreements are available at: <https://www.energy.gov/scep/historic-preservation-executed-programmatic-agreements>.
5. Most activities listed in the attached spreadsheet (GFO-SE0000737-001\_SMUD Neighborhood Electrification Project Activities) and listed in the NEPA determination are more restrictive than the Categorical Exclusion. The restrictions listed in the spreadsheet and this NEPA determination must be followed.
6. The recipient is responsible for completing the online NEPA and Historic preservation training at [www.energy.gov/node/4816816](http://www.energy.gov/node/4816816) and contacting NEPA with any questions at [GONEPA@ee.doe.gov](mailto:GONEPA@ee.doe.gov).
7. This authorization excludes any activities that are otherwise subject to a restriction set forth elsewhere in the Award.

Notes:

Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) – Congressionally Directed Project  
This NEPA Determination requires legal review of the tailored NEPA provision.  
Review completed by Brittany White on 5/31/2024

## 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.

A portion of the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review. The NEPA Provision identifies Topic Areas, Budget Periods, tasks, and/or subtasks that are subject to additional NEPA review.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 6/6/2024  
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

Recipient & Grant #	Types of Activities	Maximum size of equipment proposed	Activity Details: Level of detail needed	Describe building modifications	Describe any possible ground disturbance	Additional Notes
EXAMPLE: Elevate Energy - SE0000737	Examples: Administrative, Training and Education, Outreach/Workshops, Building assessments/audits, Weatherization, Home Repairs/Readiness, Energy Efficiency Benefits, Deep Energy Retrofits, Gas-Electric Switch, PV Install, any other activities considering	Example: roof mounted solar systems up to 20KW	Examples: This would include renewable energy measures (e.g., roof mounted solar systems up to 20KW), energy efficiency upgrades (e.g., replace existing refrigerators with higher efficiency Energy Star refrigerators), and weatherization measures (e.g., Clean, tune, or repair heating and/or cooling systems)	This largely depends on how we need to define building modification. For example, battery storage requires installing on the outside of the home, roof repair requires removing of roof tiles and replacing. HVAC can require some modifications to where the unit is going.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed contractors complete work according to all appropriate codes.</li> <li>Permits and inspections are included when required.</li> <li>Safety of SMUD employees, contractors and customers is the first priority at SMUD. If any staff or contractors identify safety concerns, they will immediately stand down to determine next steps.</li> </ul>
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Administrative		Scheduling, Invoice processing, data management, contract management	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Training & Education		SMUD Energy Specialists & Contractors educate customers about the project and expected outcomes & benefits	N/A		Educate on heat pump technology, energy efficiency benefits, time of use rate, etc.
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Outreach		Neighborhood canvassing, email, phone, etc.	N/A		See Statement of Work Objectives for more information
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Home Assessments		SMUD Energy Specialists performs walk through, determines scope	N/A		Contractor performs retrofit based on assessment
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Appliance		Microwave Oven	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Appliance	16-21 cubic feet, Energy Star	Refrigerator replacement	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Appliance		Induction Stove (GZE, EZE)	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Battery	Single battery if solar is SAW or less, two batteries if greater	Battery Storage Installation	not visible from the public right of way		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		N/A Energy Optimizer Partner Plus w/ battery install	not visible from the public right of way		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Electric Vehicles	Level 2	EV supply equipment (charger)	not visible from the public right of way		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Weatherstripping		Weatherstripping	Repairing or replacing caulking, weather-stripping, in a manner that does not harm or obscure historic windows or trim.		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Weatherization		Outlet Gaskets	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Attic Insulation	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Attic Seal	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Pipe wrap	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Lighting timers	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Lighting Fixture	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Light Bulbs - LED	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Lighting Touchstone	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Power strips	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Attic Access Lid	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Energy Efficiency		Bug Screens	replace missing or damaged screens		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Brushless fan retrofit	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Fan control	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Ceiling Fan	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling	up to 4 tons, will be right sized for home	HVAC HP Package (GZE or EZE)	TBD		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling	up to 4 tons, will be right sized for home	HVAC HP Split (GZE or EZE)	TBD		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		HVAC HP Mini Split (GZE or EZE)	TBD		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		HVAC Duct Fuel	TBD		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Fans (portable)	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Filter replacement	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		HVAC maintenance - coil clean, repair, correct improper airflow	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Duct insulation	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		HVAC Airflow adjustment	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Duct replacement	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Duct sealing	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		HVAC Room A/C	not visible from the public right of way		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Heat & Cooling		Smart Thermostat	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Other		Minor Home Repair	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Other		Fire Alarm	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Other		CO Detector	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Other		Re plumb	repair or upgrade systems in a manner that does not permanently change the appearance of the interior or exterior of the building		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Panel & Circuits	200 amps	Panel upgrade	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Panel & Circuits		Power sharing device	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Panel & Circuits		Electrical circuit run for needed end use - stove, EV, HVAC, HPWH	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Roof		Roof Repair	With closely matching materials as original		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Roof		Roof Replacement	With closely matching materials as original		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	PV Install	~7KW, will be right sized for home	Right sized, permitted, typically ~7KW	integrated shingle style or thin film solar systems on the rear roof, not visible to public right of way		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Water Heating (GZE or EZE)	60 gallons, will be right sized for home	Heat Pump Water Heater (GZE, EZE) installation	TBD		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Water Heating		Electric resistance water heater replacement	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Water Heating		Water heater wrap	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Water Savings		Aerators	N/A		
SMUD - DE-SE0000737	Water Savings		Low flow showerheads	N/A		