



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination

Categorical Exclusion

Recipient: Heidelberg Materials US, Inc.

State: Indiana

Project Title: Mitchell Decarbonization Project - Phase 1

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number: DE-FOA-0002936

Award Number: DE-CD0000090

OCED NEPA Control Number: OCED-00090-001-CX

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:

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION APPENDIX, NUMBER, AND 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.)

Rationale for Determination:

DOE's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) is proposing to provide funding to Heidelberg Materials US, Inc. (Heidelberg) in support of their project to use Mitsubishi's KM CDR Process which is an amine-based CO₂ capture process and their KS-21 solvent to capture a minimum of 95% of the CO₂ emissions and storing the CO₂ in one or more saline aquifer formations directly beneath the plant in Mitchell, Indiana.

At this time, DOE is proposing to provide funding in support of Heidelberg Phase 1 activities only; those activities are described below. The activities completed in this phase would inform additional DOE NEPA review and a go/no-go decision prior to authorizing federal funding in support of subsequent project phases. During Phase 1, Heidelberg would also complete front-end engineering design (FEED) studies and sequestration site development under existing DOE's Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) and OCED financial assistance agreements.

The Mitchell CarbonSAFE Phase II, DE-FE0032268 project activities include geological characterization activities to establish suitability of the Mitchell, IN site for CO₂ storage and activities include drilling characterization well, sampling, seismic surveys, and office. A categorical exclusion determination was signed on August 14, 2023, by National Energy Technology Lab (NETL) for A1, A9, B3.1 and B3.7.

The Mitchell Cement Plant Carbon Capture FEED, DE-FE0032222 project activities include a FEED study for retrofitting the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America, Inc. (MHIA) carbon capture technology at their modernized Mitchell cement plant. The categorical exclusion determination was signed on October 26, 2023, by NETL for A9 and B3.1.

The Mitchell Cement Integrated CO₂ Capture Project, DE-FOA-0002738 project activities include project management, community benefits work, a CO₂ capture FEED study, CO₂ transport FEED study, a storage field development plan to permanently sequester the captured CO₂ onsite, and permit application preparation. The categorical exclusion determination was signed on September 19, 2023, by OCED for A9.

OCED independently reviewed the proposed Phase 1 activities and determined that they are consistent with what has already been reviewed and categorically excluded by NETL and OCED. The above referenced categorical exclusion determinations and related consultations are hereby incorporated by reference.

In Phase 1 of financial assistance agreement DE-CD0000090, Heidelberg would:

- Prepare NEPA documentation (including the Environmental Information Volume) and permitting plans.
- Complete project management and budgeting tasks.
- Work toward completion of the community benefits tasks.

DOE does not anticipate adverse impacts to sensitive resources as a result of the proposed activities.

Consultations (Section 106 NHPA, Section 7 ESA, etc.): All cultural resource identification activities (e.g., archaeological, historic above ground, historic visual assessments) must be completed in accordance with applicable guidelines and standards provided by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) and the Secretary of the Interior's Identification Standards. Coordination with DOE is required to establish an Area of Potential Effects (APE) and scope of effort (i.e., research design) prior to geotechnical surveys and cultural resource field investigations. DOE will initiate Section 106 consultation prior to geotechnical surveys and cultural resource field investigations in order to support coordination with SHPO/THPO, Tribes, and other Section 106 consulting parties.

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 1501.9(e)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.1(g)(3)) 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.

DOE has determined that work to be carried out outside of the United States, its territories and possessions is exempt from further review pursuant to Section 5.1.1 of the DOE Final Guidelines for Implementation of Executive Order 12114; "Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions."

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

A portion of the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Notes: This categorical exclusion applies to those activities listed above. Any changes to the project activities or location are subject to additional NEPA review by DOE and are not authorized for federal funding unless and until the Contracting Officer provides written authorization on those additions or modifications.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

OCED NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

Date: