

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



**RECIPIENT:** VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE

**STATE:** IL

**PROJECT TITLE:** ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0002882	EECBG Equipment Voucher	GFO-DownersGroveIL-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:

- |  |  |
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| <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>B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems</b>                      | 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 provide funding to the Village of Downers Grove to install two solar arrays at the Village of Downers Grove's Civic Center located at 850 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove, Illinois. This project would be funded under the Administrative and Legal Requirements Document (ALRD) for the DOE's Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program Formula Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (EECBG Formula - IJJA).

Award activities would involve the installation of two solar arrays: one, 126.7-megawatt hour (MWh) solar array on the roof of the Civic Center, and one, 121.7-MWh solar array as a canopy over the existing parking lot. The canopy for the second solar array would span approximately 24 parking spaces and require footings to be installed in two existing landscaping islands in the parking lot. The footing for the canopy would be drilled into the islands using an auger attachment, and a form would be inserted and filled with concrete to hold the necessary hardware to secure the carport support structure. A fork truck would be used to lift equipment into place on the roof of the Civic Center and the canopy. Both the building and canopy would require the installation of racking systems to install a total of 417 solar modules, and the systems would be connected to the electrical system of the building using an existing conduit that was installed during the construction of the Civic Center.

No facility modifications, changes in use, or health and safety hazards are anticipated. Ground disturbance would occur from pouring footings into existing landscaping islands in the parking lot. The project would not require review from the State Historic Preservation Officer because the building is less than a year old and qualifies for exemption under the Illinois Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement. Minimal air emissions may result from vehicles and equipment that would be used to install the solar arrays, but emissions would be temporary and intermittent. Existing government and corporate health, safety, and environmental policies and procedures would be followed, including personnel training, proper personal protective equipment, monitoring, and internal assessments.

The Village of Downers Grove would observe all applicable federal, state, and local health, safety, and environmental regulations and requirements. 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:

1. The Village of Downers Grove must adhere to the terms and restrictions of the DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement with the State of Illinois, available at <https://www.energy.gov/node/812599>.
2. The Village of Downers Grove is responsible for reviewing the online NEPA and Historic preservation training at [www.energy.gov/node/4816816](http://www.energy.gov/node/4816816) and contacting [EECBG.NEPA@ee.doe.gov](mailto:EECBG.NEPA@ee.doe.gov) with any EECBG NEPA or historic preservation questions.
3. The Village of Downers Grove is required to submit an annual Historic Preservation Report at <https://forms.office.com/g/kAFs0N7CZH>.

Notes:

Office of State and Community Energy Programs - EECBG  
NEPA review completed by Nick Iraola, 08/01/2024

**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: Andrew Montano  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 8/2/2024

**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: \_\_\_\_\_