

Subsequent updates to the official NEPA Guidelines for Buildings UP Teams included additional review criteria to those set forth in GFO-National Building Upgrade Prize-003, including: “Teams may request a NEPA review of planned upgrades to multiple buildings within a common geographic area for which similar upgrade measures are planned. To be eligible for a NEPA Determination that covers many locations in a common geographic area, buildings must be of similar type (e.g. all are single family row homes, all are manufactured homes, etc.) and vintage (e.g. all were built in the same year, or close to the same year) with similar upgrade measures planned. Teams do not need to wait for signed contracts or confirmed subscribers to submit a request for NEPA review. Obtaining a NEPA Determination proactively allows teams to perform upgrades within a covered location without delay once a subscriber is confirmed or a contract for an upgrade is signed.”

IMPACT submitted a geographic area review request seeking DOE's authorization to remove existing residential HVAC systems (gas furnace with split system air conditioner, electric resistance heat with split system air conditioner, etc.) and replace them with whole home heat pumps. Building upgrades would occur at multiple locations within American Addition. DOE has determined that the proposal meets the provisions outlined above based on the following:

- An American Addition revitalization effort spanning the past two decades has resulted in a centralized neighborhood of new home development. Buildings are of similar size (3 bedrooms and 1.5-2 bathrooms) and share a common design focus, including energy efficiency and sustainability.
- Community residents have been, and would remain, engaged by IMPACT for the prize's minimum technology requirements.
- IMPACT would procure and install the same model of commercially available equipment at all homes selected for upgrades.
- A National Register of Historic Places Preliminary Questionnaire Historic District Form was submitted to the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). SHPO staff reviewed the materials provided and went to the proposed historic district to assess the historic integrity. On July 16, 2024, the cognizant American Addition neighborhood representative received a letter from the Survey and National Register Manager, Inventory and Registration with the SHPO's assessment that the district does not retain enough physical historic integrity to qualify for nomination to the National Register.

This ND does not supersede GFO-National Building Upgrade Prize-003, which still applies to any other activity proposed to be conducted by IMPACT during phase 3.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination.

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

Phase 3 of the National Building Upgrade Prize.

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

Phase 4 of the National Building Upgrade Prize.

Notes:

Building Technologies Office (BTO)

NEPA review completed by Alex Colling on 9/18/2024; revised by Whitney Donoghue on 10/9/2024.

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:  **Electronically Signed By: Andrew Montano** _____ Date: 10/4/2024
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