

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



**RECIPIENT:** 2 - Building Upgrades Inspire Local Transformation (BUILT) Nonprofits Applicants    **STATE:** CO  
 WithOUT a Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement (PA)

**PROJECT TITLE:** Renew America's Nonprofits Program: BUILT Partnership Intermediary Agreement 2024 Awards

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
Built-Nonprofits	N/A	GFO-Built_Nonprofits-002	

**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:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <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>A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations</b>  | Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.   |
| <b>B2.2 Building and equipment instrumentation</b>           | Installation of, or improvements to, building and equipment instrumentation (including, but not limited to, remote control panels, remote monitoring capability, alarm and surveillance systems, control systems to provide automatic shutdown, fire detection and protection systems, water consumption monitors and flow control systems, announcement and emergency warning systems, criticality and radiation monitors and alarms, and safeguards and security equipment).   |
| <b>B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water</b>              | (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. |

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing funding under the Building Upgrades Inspiring Local Transformation (BUILT Nonprofits) funding opportunity under Section 40542 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

The BUILT Nonprofits funding opportunity will provide a total of \$2 million for energy efficiency upgrades in community-based 501(c)(3) nonprofits. Funds will support projects that reduce energy use, lower carbon emissions, and generate short and long-term energy cost saving so that operational dollars can be redirected toward mission-critical work.

This NEPA determination is specific to the BUILT Nonprofit Recipients without a DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement. BUILT Recipients with a DOE executed Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement has a separate NEPA determination: GFO-BUILT-FOA-001.

Allowable activities for BUILT Nonprofit recipients are limited to:

Funding commercially available, energy efficient upgrades; provided that projects are installed in or on existing buildings less than 45 years old, are not within a historic district, do not require ground disturbance beyond the placement of a 10 square foot pad for an HVAC system adjacent to a building foundation, tree removal or tree trimming, are appropriately sized, and are limited to:

- a. Installation of insulation
- b. Installation of energy efficient lighting
- c. Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades to existing systems, may include installation of a 10 square foot pad for an HVAC system adjacent to a building foundation
- d. Weather sealing and duct sealing
- e. Purchase and installation of energy/water-efficient residential and commercial appliances and equipment (including, but not limited to, grid-interactive building technologies, energy or water monitoring and control systems, thermostats, heat pumps, furnaces, air conditioners, and related software).
- f. Retrofit and replacement of windows and doors
- g. Installation of electric appliances (including replacement of appliances that utilize fossil fuels with electric appliances) such as heat pumps for water heating, air heating/cooling, electric dryers, and stoves.
- h. Retrofit and installation of energy-efficient commercial kitchen equipment, such as efficient refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, ice makers, fryers, ovens, and stoves.
- i. Roof repair or replacement- including, replacing decking material and roof, and/or changing roof material (e.g., shingles to metal).
- j. Electrical system upgrades required to enable energy efficient/clean energy. Measures limited to electric panel upgrades, updated wiring and conduit, grounding, and arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) and ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) breakers.

The Recipient is responsible for informing DOE of any extraordinary circumstances, cumulative impacts, or connected actions that may lead to significant impacts on the environment or any inconsistency with the “integral elements” from a particular project. See 10 C.F.R. Part 1021 Appendix B, and the DOE’s online NEPA and historic preservation PowerPoint trainings at [www.energy.gov/node/4816816](http://www.energy.gov/node/4816816) to review these concepts.

Activities not listed above, including ground disturbing activities (beyond placement of HVAC pad adjacent to the perimeter of a foundation), tree removal or tree trimming, installations in or on existing buildings older than 45 years old, or buildings within a historic district, are not included in this NEPA determination and are subject to additional NEPA review and approval by DOE. For activities/projects, requiring additional NEPA review, states must complete the environmental questionnaire (EQ-1): <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.

Activities that fit the restrictions of the Allowable Activities, except they involve structures 45 years or older, require the submission of a Historic Preservation Worksheet, review by a DOE NEPA Specialist and approval from DOE prior to initiating activities. Recipients should contact their Project Officer or email [GONEPA@ee.doe.gov](mailto:GONEPA@ee.doe.gov) for information to complete a Historic Preservation Worksheet.

All incidental measures relating to hazardous materials identified during project activities would be managed in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local requirements.

Recipients are required to review the DOE PowerPoint (PPT) trainings on NEPA and Historic Preservation prior to commencing work on the above activities. The PPT training are available at [www.energy.gov/node/4816816](http://www.energy.gov/node/4816816). Recipients are responsible for contacting NEPA with any NEPA or historic preservation questions at [GONEPA@ee.doe.gov](mailto:GONEPA@ee.doe.gov).

Recipients are responsible for identifying and promptly notifying DOE of extraordinary circumstances, cumulative impacts, or connected actions that may lead to significant impacts on the environment, or any inconsistency with the “integral elements” (as contained in 10 CFR Part 1021, Appendix B) relating to any proposed activities. Additionally, Recipients must demonstrate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) by following the restrictions outlined in the NEPA determination.

DOE is required to consider floodplain management and wetland protection as part of its environmental review process (10 CFR 1022). As part of this required review, DOE determined requirements set forth in Subpart B of 10 CFR 1022 are not applicable to the activities described above that would occur in the 100-year floodplain (hereinafter "floodplain") or wetland because the activities would not have short-term or long-term adverse impacts to the floodplain or wetland. These activities are administrative or minor modifications of existing facilities to improve environmental conditions.

Most activities listed under "Allowable Activities" are more restrictive than the Categorical Exclusion. The restrictions must be followed for the Allowable Activities to be applicable. For activities requiring additional NEPA review, Recipients must complete the environmental questionnaire (found at <https://www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/NEPA.aspx>) for review by DOE.

## 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 Building Upgrades Inspiring Local Transformation (BUILT Nonprofits) funding announcement, on structures less than forty-five (45) years old and fit within the restrictions of the Allowable Activities listed above.

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 by the Building Upgrades Inspiring Local Transformation (BUILT Nonprofits) funding announcement, or to activities on structures forty-five (45) years or older, or to activities that do not fit within the restrictions of the Allowable Activities listed above.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

1. This NEPA Determination only applies to activities funded by Building Upgrades Inspiring Local Transformation (BUILT Nonprofits) funding announcement.
2. Activities not listed under "Allowable Activities" including activities on structures more than forty-five (45) years old, ground disturbing activities, (beyond the placement of a 10 square foot pad for an HVAC system adjacent to a building foundation), tree removal and tree trimming, are subject to additional NEPA review and approval by DOE. For activities requiring additional NEPA review, Recipients 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.
3. Any activities on tribal lands or tribal properties are restricted to homes/buildings less than forty-five (45) years old and without ground disturbance. Recipients may contact their Project Officer for a Historic Preservation Worksheet to request a review of activities that are listed below on tribal homes/buildings forty-five (45) years and older and/or ground disturbing activities. Approval from DOE is required prior to initiating activities reviewed on a Historic Preservation Worksheet.
4. Activities that fit the restrictions of the Allowable Activities, but involve structures 45 years or older, require a Historic Preservation Worksheet submission and approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to initiating the project. Recipients should contact their Project Officer or email [GONEPA@ee.doe.gov](mailto:GONEPA@ee.doe.gov) for information to complete a Historic Preservation Worksheet.
5. 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.
6. 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.

7. Most activities listed under "Allowable Activities" are more restrictive than the Categorical Exclusion. The restrictions listed in the "Allowable Activities" must be followed.

8. Recipients are responsible for reviewing the online NEPA and Historic preservation PowerPoint trainings 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).

9. 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 – Community Energy Programs (Non-Profits)  
This NEPA Determination requires legal review of the tailored NEPA provision.  
NEPA review completed by Diana Heyder, 10/18/24

**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.

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: **Matthew Blevins**

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: **10/21/2024**

**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: