

PMC-EE2a

(20402)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
EERE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER
NEPA DETERMINATION**



RECIPIENT: Kennebec Valley Community College

STATE: ME

PROJECT
TITLE : Solar Installer Instructor Training Project

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000078	DE-EE0002093	GFO-10-094	0

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have made the following determination:

CX, EA, EIS APPENDIX AND NUMBER:

Description:

- A9** Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring.
- A11** Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.
- B3.6** Siting, construction (or modification), operation, and decommissioning of facilities for indoor bench-scale research projects and conventional laboratory operations (for example, preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); small-scale research and development projects; and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than two years) conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions. Construction (or modification) will be within or contiguous to an already developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible).

Rational for determination:

Kennebec Valley Community College will be using ARRA funding to establish a solar heating and cooling and solar system training program.

Activities under this project will include hiring faculty, curriculum development, establishing an advisory council, student recruitment planning/implementing, hosting an annual solar forum, and outreach activities to surrounding communities.

Task 3.0 Facility Renovation/Lab Construction and Mobile Laboratory, as described in the current SOPO, involves the renovation of a former carpentry lab area to house their proposed solar training lab and establishing a mobile solar laboratory.

The mobile laboratory will consist of a tandem axle fully enclosed trailer which will contain the controllers, inverters, disconnects and other electrical and plumbing equipment used as part of common SHC systems. The roof of the trailer will be modified to allow attachment of both PV modules and solar thermal panels. This unit will be modified, built and assembled by outside vendors.

The facility renovation and lab construction portion of the project will involve converting the school's former carpentry workspace into a solar training area. This renovated space will allow a "hands on" solar system installation and maintenance training location for student technicians and instructors. Funds will be used for renovation and the purchase of technical equipment including, but is not limited to, a small PV array, controllers, inverters, disconnects and module roof rack mounts.

The renovation activities will require local building permit which will be acquired during the review of renovation plan. Kennebec Valley Community College has established safety policy and procedures in place for their laboratory areas. These are monitored by the College Safety Committee and are periodically audited by the Maine Municipal Association, the Maine Department of Risk Management and the Maine Department of Labor on behalf of OSHA. A thorough R&D questionnaire has been submitted by Kennebec that discusses in detail their waste handling, hazardous materials and safety protocols.

This project comprises information gathering, curriculum development, technical assistance, and construction/modification of facilities for indoor bench-scale research projects; therefore a CX A9, A11 and B3.6 apply.

NEPA PROVISION

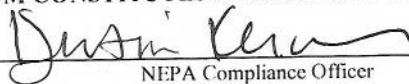
DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: 
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 12.28.09

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

☐ Field Office Manager review required

NCO REQUESTS THE FIELD OFFICE MANAGER REVIEW FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

- ☐ Proposed action fits within a categorical exclusion but involves a high profile or controversial issue that warrants Field Office Manager's attention.
- ☐ Proposed action falls within an EA or EIS category and therefore requires Field Office Manager's review and determination.

BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :

Field Office Manager's Signature: _____
Field Office Manager

Date: _____