

PMC-EF2a

(20102)

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



RECIPIENT: Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

STATE: MO

PROJECT TITLE : National Alliance for Advanced Biofuels and Bioproducts

| Funding Opportunity Announcement Number | Procurement Instrument Number | NEPA Control Number | CID Number |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| DE-FOA-0000123                          | DE-EE0003046                  | GFO-10-306          | EE0        |

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:

- 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).
- 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.

## Rational for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide federal funds to support the National Alliance for Advanced Biofuels and Bioproducts. Proposed project tasks fall into the following categories: Algal Biology, Cultivation, Harvesting/Extraction, and Conversion to fuels, Coproduct development, and Economic/energy-balance modeling and resource management.

This is a conditional NEPA determination.

This NEPA determination applies to tasks and subtasks, with the EXCEPTION of the following which require additional NEPA review:

Tasks 2.2.3.3 through 2.2.3.7. These subtasks involve the proposed relocation of a waste water treatment system. The recipient shall submit additional NEPA documentation when further details regarding the relocation of the system and associated details are available for review.

Tasks 2.2.1.1.2 – 2.2.1.1.4. These subtasks involve proposed drilling of test wells. The recipient shall submit additional NEPA documentation when the sites for the well testing have been selected.

Tasks 5.1.3.2 – 5.1.3.5. These tasks propose animal testing and are restricted at this time.

This NEPA determination applies to laboratory scale research and development and pilot-scale tasks, with the exception of those called out above. CX B3.6 and CX A9 apply.

Regarding the use of Genetically Modified Organisms: The recipients and sub recipients are committed to using GMOs consistent with all applicable biosafety standards and with all applicable USDA APHIS regulations. USDA APHIS regulations are in flux and the recipients and sub recipients shall monitor changes and maintain constant compliance.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment

or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Tasks 2.2.3.3 through 2.2.3.7. These subtasks involve the proposed relocation of a waste water treatment system. The recipient shall submit additional NEPA documentation when further details regarding the relocation of the system and associated details are available for review.

Tasks 2.2.1.1.2 – 2.2.1.1.4. These subtasks involve proposed drilling of test wells. The recipient shall submit additional NEPA documentation when the sites for the well testing have been selected.

Tasks 5.1.3.2 – 5.1.3.5. These tasks propose animal testing and are restricted at this time.

This restriction does not preclude you from:

The remainder of the project tasks.

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Note to Specialist :

None Given.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: *Kyndra Kenia*  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 3/30/2010

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