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201007

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



RECIPIENT: City of St. Paul

STATE: MN

PROJECT TITLE : Recovery Act: Solar District Heating

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000078	DE-EE0002076	GFO-10-315-001	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:

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy, demonstrate potential energy conservation, and promote energy-efficiency that do not increase the indoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, designers), organizations (such as utilities), and state and local governments. Covered actions include, but are not limited to: programmed lowering of thermostat settings, placement of timers on hot water heaters, installation of solar hot water systems, installation of efficient lighting, improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings, development of energy-efficient manufacturing or industrial practices, and small-scale conservation and renewable energy research and development and pilot projects. The actions could involve building renovations or new structures in commercial, residential, agricultural, or industrial sectors. These actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation.

Rational for determination:

This NEPA review is a continuation for the NEPA review GFO-10-315 and applies to the proposed installation of a solar thermal system on the St. Paul RiverCenter facility.

The recipient proposes to use DOE funds to install a roof mounted solar thermal system on the RiverCenter building in St. Paul, Minnesota. Per consultation with the Minnesota Historical Society, the RiverCenter building is not historic in nature or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, however it is adjacent to, and within the viewshed of, the Rice Park Historic District. Based on a review of the design, the Minnesota Historical Society determined that the proposed solar thermal installation will have no affect on properties in or eligible for the National Register.

This activity is categorically excluded from further NEPA review. CXB5.1 applies.

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:

This NEPA determination applies only to the RiverCenter solar thermal installation only. Any other installations are subject to additional NEPA review.

This restriction does not preclude you from:

The RiverCenter solar thermal installation and any other activities covered by the previous NEPA determination for this award.

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.

