

PMC-EF2a

(2.0(02)

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



RECIPIENT:Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company (HC&S)

STATE: HI

PROJECT TITLE : Development of High Yield Tropical Feedstocks and Biomass Conversion Technology for Renewable Energy Production and Economic Development

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-FG36-08GO88037	GFO-GO88037-003	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.
- 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.
- B3.1** Onsite and offsite site characterization and environmental monitoring, including siting, construction (or modification), operation, and dismantlement or closing (abandonment) of characterization and monitoring devices and siting, construction, and associated operation of a small-scale laboratory building or renovation of a room in an existing building for sample analysis. Activities covered include, but are not limited to, site characterization and environmental monitoring under CERCLA and RCRA. Specific activities include, but are not limited to:

Rational for determination:

This NEPA determination is a follow up to GFO-GO88037-002 which placed conditions on tasks 3.4 and 3.5 of this award. This NEPA determination applies to subtask 3.4. Subtask 3.5 requires additional NEPA review by DOE.

DOE is proposing to provide funding to the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar to investigate alternative renewable energy sources for biofuel and electric power production.

Task 3.4.1 will take place within existing sugar cane fields within HC&S boundaries. Task 3.4.2 will involve completing computer modeling of soil moisture and growth characteristics. In Task 3.4.3, a receiving station will be fabricated to introduce woodchips into the pre-existing biomass solid fuel infrastructure of boilers and steam turbine generators. This receiving station will be on previously disturbed lands that were graded to level for building construction. Task 3.4.4 will use existing facilities and equipment for the harvest of sugar cane stalk. Task 3.4.5 will entail hiring a consultant to address the logistical questions on how to utilize landfill gas and bio-digesters as well as how to integrate them into the HC&S system. Task 3.4.6 will entail engaging an outside consultant who could advise HC&S how to utilize wind and solar energy to aid in the irrigation requirement; the irrigation system is currently in place, wind and solar options are currently not.

The applicant has submitted an R&D Questionnaire which thoroughly addresses the chemical and safety handling protocols associated with this project. HC & S has a safety officer which monitors for OSHA requirements.

This project consists of computer modeling, consultant services and actions to conserve energy through sugar cane stalk development; therefore a CX A9, B3.1, & B5.1 apply.

This NEPA determination applies to subtask 3.4 – the investigation of alternative renewable energy sources for biofuel and electric power production by identifying feedstock and energy initiative options – only. Task 3.5 is prohibited at this time and requires an additional NEPA determination.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

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:

Task 3.5 is prohibited at this time and requires an additional NEPA determination.

This restriction does not preclude you from:

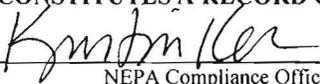
This NEPA determination applies to subtask 3.4 – the investigation of alternative renewable energy sources for biofuel and electric power production by identifying feedstock and energy initiative options – only.

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 :

Eugene Brown 3/10/2011

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: 
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 3/10/2011

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: _____