PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: University of California

STATE: CA

PROJECT

TITLE:

OpenBAS or Turnkey Software Solutions for Small to Medium Commercial Buildings

**Funding Opportunity Announcement Number** DE-FOA-0000822

DE-EE0006351

Procurement Instrument Number NEPA Control Number CID Number GFO-0006351-001

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, analysis, and dissemination

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.)

B3.6 Small-scale research and development, and pilot projects

Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for smallscale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) laboratory operations, frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions, provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.

## Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the University of California to develop an open-source Building Automation System for optimizing electricity usage in small and medium-sized buildings.

This project consists of three phases. Phase 1 includes the development of an open software architecture platform interfaced with three hardware devices (thermostat, lighting control, and general controller), software tools, and user interface. Phase 2 includes refinement of the integrated platform and install, debug, and testing of equipment, the software platform, hardware devices, and software tools at either the Facility for Low-Energy experiments (FLEXLAB) or similar building-scale test bed in preparation for deployment in up to three existing commercial buildings as part of Phase 3 activities.

This NEPA Determination is for Phase 1 and 2 only. There is a Go/No-Go decision point between Phases 2 and 3. Based upon review of the results of Phase 2 activities, DOE may or may not decide to continue funding the project into Phase 3. If the project is selected to move forward with Phase 3 activities another NEPA review will be required before those activities begin.

Based on review of the project information, DOE has determined Phase 1 and Phase 2 activities would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined the proposed project is consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusions A9 "Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination," and B3.6 "Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects," and is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

## 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: Phase 3 This restriction does not preclude you from: Phase 1 Phase 2 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:		
	This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.		
	Casey Strickland 9/17/2013		
SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.			
NEPA	A Compliance Officer Signature:    Reference by Kristin Kerwin   NEPA Compliance Officer	Date:	9/18/2013
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:	Date:	
Field Office Manager			

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