

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Hydro Research Foundation

STATE: CO

PROJECT TITLE : University Research Awards and Workforce Development for Hydropower

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000832	EE0006506	GFO-0006506-001	

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.)
--	--

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to Hydro Research Foundation to develop a Hydro Fellowship Program that would execute a University Research Awards Program (RAP). This RAP would provide 8-10 competitively awarded hydro-power related graduate-level research awards for one-to-two year periods of study. At this time, no students have been selected and sites and activities are unknown.

This NEPA determination applies to the administration of the fellowship program, including surveys of other research programs, analysis of financial support for potential fellows, and other Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination activities only. This NEPA determination does not apply to the issuance of any graduate-level fellowship grants and each selected project is subject to additional NEPA review.

Based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined the proposed Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination 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 exclusion A9 "information gathering, analysis and dissemination," 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/NSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

The issuance of any graduate-level fellowship grants. Each selected grant project is subject to additional NEPA review. This restriction does not preclude you from:

The administration of the fellowship program, including surveys of other research programs, analysis of financial support for potential fellows, and other information gathering, analysis, and dissemination activities.

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 :

Kelly Daigle 2/5/2014

This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA review.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____



Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: _____

2/7/2014

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: _____