

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT:NREL

STATE: CO

PROJECT TITLE : NREL - FTLB Room 269 Fuel Synthesis Lab; NREL Tracking No. 15-032

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-15-032	GO28308

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:

DOE/EA-1968 (NREL STM)	SITEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, U.S. DOE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY, SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN CAMPUS, GOLDEN, COLORADO
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Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes a project to demolish and reconfigure Room 269 in the Field Test Laboratory Building (FTLB) into the new Fuel Synthesis Catalysis Laboratory. The FTLB is located at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) South Table Mountain (STM) campus in Golden, Colorado.

The proposed project would renovate approximately 1,200 SQFT of interior space, consolidate existing laboratory operations from five FTLB labs, and would add new infrastructure, including a new outdoor gas enclosure to address existing fire code compliance issues for flammable gas bottles storage inside the building. New laboratory equipment would be installed, including four large hood enclosures, one benchtop chemical hood, two flammable storage cabinets, one nitrogen purged glovebox, and four cylinder gas cabinets. Proper gas detection and fire suppression systems would also be added. The quantities and types of gases would be equivalent to what is currently in use, but would be consolidated to a single location meeting fire safety code and other requirements.

Construction of the exterior gas enclosure area would require a minimal amount of ground disturbance (~400 SQFT) and would be conducted in accordance with NREL stormwater and erosion control procedures. Any mobile air emission sources from construction equipment, such as back hoes, support trucks, etc., would be negligible and short-term. Air emissions from laboratory operations would be consistent with current levels and would be managed in accordance with applicable air pollution control regulations. Construction-related noise would consist of a short-term, intermittent increase in ambient noise levels and would abide by applicable noise ordinances. A very small quantity of construction debris would be generated. All materials and waste would be managed accordingly under NREL's waste management program. A nesting bird survey would be completed by NREL's EHS Office before these activities are initiated, per NREL policy. NREL and their contractors would follow DOE, federal, state, local environmental, health, and safety regulations, as well as NREL policies and procedures.

Per agency consultations conducted during the December 2014 Site-Wide Environmental Assessment for the NREL South Table Mountain campus (DOE/EA-1968), no cultural resources, threatened or endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands would be impacted by this proposed project.

Existing corporate health and safety policies and procedures for compressed gases, toxic gases, and other hazards would be followed for the operation of this remodeled lab and gas enclosure including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments. Additional policies and procedures

would be implemented as necessary as new health and safety risks are identified. This would help ensure compliance with applicable health and safety regulations, and minimize health and safety risks to employees and the public.

Based on review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that the activities associated with the proposed project would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that the facility modification and operation of new, modified, or relocated research and support equipment are bounded by the analysis of the December 2014 NREL STM Site-Wide Environmental Assessment (DOE/EA-1968) and its Findings of No Significant Impact, and no further NEPA review is required.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

If you intend to make changes to the scope or objective of your project you are required to contact the Project Officer identified in Block 11 of the Notice of Financial Assistance Award before proceeding. You must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved.

Note to Specialist :

NEPA review by Rob Smith on 9/9/2015
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:



NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

9/10/2015

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: