PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Strategic Analysis, Inc.

STATE: VA

PROJECT TITLE Hydrogen Production And Delivery Analysis

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number 0001412

Procurement Instrument Number DE-EE0007602

NEPA Control Number CID Number GFO-0007602-001

GO7602

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.

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 analysis, and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training dissemination and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

## Rationale for determination:

DOE is proposing to provide funding to Strategic Analysis, Inc. to conduct a cost analysis of multiple hydrogen production pathways to evaluate the potential of those pathways in meeting the DOE hydrogen production cost target. The project would identify the key cost and performance bottlenecks of these pathways and challenges, as well as evaluate hydrogen delivery scenarios encompassing transportation, storage and conditioning in order to evaluate the projected costs against the DOE target for hydrogen delivery costs. These studies would culminate in a life cycle assessment.

Project activities include estimation of the physical design and cost of various hydrogen production systems (for generation of hydrogen to be used in conjunction with fuel cell automobiles), and feasibility/performance analysis. All activities consists entirely of intellectual, academic, or analytical activities and would occur in an office setting in Arlington, Virginia, at Argonne National Laboratory, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Any work proposed to be conducted at a DOE laboratory may be subject to additional NEPA review by the cognizant DOE NEPA Compliance Officer for the specific DOE laboratory prior to initiating such work. Further, any work conducted at a DOE laboratory must meet the laboratory's health and safety requirements.

Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined the proposal fits within the class of action(s) selected above. DOE has also determined that: (1) there are no extraordinary circumstances (as defined by 10 CFR 1021.410(2)) related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; (2) the proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion; and (3) the proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts, related to other proposals with cumulatively significant actions, or an improper interim action. This proposal is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

## NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

If the Recipient intends to make changes to the scope or objective of this project, the Recipient is required to contact the Project Officer, identified in Block 15 of the Assistance Agreement before proceeding. The Recipient must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved. If the Recipient moves forward with activities that are not authorized for Federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of a final NEPA decision, the Recipient is doing so at risk of not receiving Federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

	Insert the following language in the award:
	You are required to: Any work proposed to be conducted at a DOE laboratory may be subject to additional NEPA review by the cognizant DOE NEPA Compliance Officer for the specific DOE laboratory prior to initiating such work. Further, any work conducted at a DOE laboratory must meet the laboratory's health and safety requirements.
	Note to Specialist:
	This NEPA Determination requires a tailored NEPA provision. Fuel Cell Technologies Office Casey Strickland 07/07/16
SIC	NATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.
NE	PA Compliance Officer Signature:    Date: 7/12/2016   NEPA Compliance Officer   Date: 7/12/2016
FII	LD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION
	Field Office Manager review required
NC	O 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.
BA	SED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO:
Fie	d Office Manager's Signature: Date:
	Field Office Manager