

PMC-ND  
(1.08.09.13)

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



**RECIPIENT:** Rocky Mountain Institute

**STATE:** CO

**PROJECT TITLE :** REALIZE: Bringing zero energy home retrofits to market with a clean industrial revolution

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0001630	DE-EE0008185	GFO-0008185-001	GO8185

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:

<b>A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination</b>	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.)
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**Rationale for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the Rocky Mountain Institute to develop a "building delivery system" for a residential retrofit approach, which provides a cost-effective, zero-energy-ready retrofit solution, in order to precipitate the market transformation needed to accelerate the wide-scale adoption of zero-energy-ready retrofits in the U.S. market.

Activities associated with Budget Period 1 of the proposed project would include literature searches, information gathering, data analysis, computer modeling, analytical reviews, conceptual designs, feasibility studies, document preparation, data dissemination, and paper studies. These activities would use no physical materials beyond basic office supplies and software and there would not be any potential health, safety or environmental impacts associated.

There would be a Go/No-Go decision point at the end of Budget Period 1. If a participant can be secured and a viable technical design produced and they continue to Budget Period 2, proposed activities would include installation and performance monitoring of that technical design. This installation cannot be defined at this time as the results of Budget Period 1 would determine the locations and types of project activities occurring in Budget Period 2. Therefore, a meaningful review of Budget Period 2 cannot be completed at this time. Further NEPA review will be necessary before going forward with activities associated with Budget period 2.

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 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:

Budget Period 2

This restriction does not preclude you from:

Budget Period 1

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 :

Building Technologies Office

This NEPA determination requires a tailored NEPA provision.

Review completed by Rebecca McCord on 08/21/2017.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:



Casey Strickland

*Casey Strickland*

Date: 8/22/2017

NEPA Compliance Officer

**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: