

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



RECIPIENT: NREL

STATE: CO

PROJECT TITLE: STL Heater Replacement Project (NREL-18-018)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-18-018	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:

- B2.1 Workplace enhancements** Modifications within or contiguous to an existing structure, in a previously disturbed or developed area, to enhance workplace habitability (including, but not limited to, installation or improvements to lighting, radiation shielding, or heating/ventilating/air conditioning and its instrumentation, and noise reduction).
- DOE/EA 1914 (NREL NWTC)** Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment of the Department of Energy's National Wind Technology Center at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is proposing a project to update the heating system, including installation of a natural gas line, of building 251 (the STL facility). Work would be conducted at NREL's National Wind Technology Center (NWTC), located southeast of the intersection of Colorado Highway (CO) 93 and CO-128, in Jefferson County, Colorado. The NWTC is a federally-owned facility that consists of 305 acres and is primarily utilized for wind energy research, development, and testing.

Project activities would include installing an underground gas line to the building, installing the gas line onto building 251 (up to the roof), removal of the existing heating system components, and installation of new heating system components. The 1¼" underground gas line would connect to the existing main line at the north perimeter of the site with the northwest corner of building 251. This is previous disturbed area that is currently used by NREL maintenance as a storage area (aka boneyard). The trench for the gas line would be approximately 2' x 3' wide and 300' long. The estimated area of disturbance, including trench and staging areas, would not exceed 5100 sq.ft. Xcel energy contractors would install the gas line and NREL contracted workers would be hired to remove the existing rooftop electric radiant heating system and install a new natural gas heating system.

Existing NREL health and safety policies and procedures would be followed. Ground disturbing activities would be conducted in accordance with NREL Lab Level Procedure 6-1.29: Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Construction Activities: National Wind Technology Center. A stormwater permit would not be needed for this project due to its small size, however, appropriate erosion control measures would be deployed and maintained during and after the project. Xcel and construction contractors would follow NREL's specifications to limit air emissions from the construction site.

The proposed project area is not located near or around any sensitive resources. The project area is not located in a wetland or floodplain, threatened or endangered species habitat, or where there are known historic or cultural resources. Threatened and endangered species surveys have been performed on the property in appropriate habitats and no T&E species have been observed. There is designated threatened species habitat (Preble's meadow jumping mouse) in the southeastern portion of the site however, the proposed project location is in the northern portion of the site and would not affect this area.

Project activities comprise routine maintenance and site improvements that occur regularly onsite. Based on the review of the proposal, DOE has determined the project fits within the class of action(s) and the integral elements of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021 outlined in the DOE categorical exclusion(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.

Note to Specialist :

Completed by [Laura Margason on July 3, 2018](#)

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

 Electronically Signed By: [Kristin Kerwin](#)
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 7/6/2018

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: _____