

PMC-ND  
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: Vermont Energy Investment Corporation

STATE: VT

PROJECT TITLE : Solar and Distributed Generation as Key Elements in Meeting Vermont's Comprehensive Energy Plan Goalsw

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA0001071	DE-EE0006911	GFO-0006911-001	

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:

**A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations**

Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

**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 funding to the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation to develop a consensus-driven solar deployment plan for the State of Vermont.

The proposed project activities would include stakeholder recruitment and engagement; scenario analyses; use of those analyses to evaluate net metering policy and options in the other strategic focus areas; scenario revisions and sensitivity analyses; consensus building; dissemination of results; and ongoing course correction. The proposed project would be limited exclusively to intellectual, academic, or analytical activities and would use no physical materials beyond basic office supplies and software.

Based on a review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that the proposed project would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that this project is consistent with actions outlined in DOE categorical exclusion A9 "Information gathering, analysis and dissemination" and A11 "technical advice and planning assistance" and is therefore 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 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 :

Solar Energy Technologies Office

This NEPA Determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.

NEPA Review completed by Logan Sholar, 12/9/14

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: Kyndria Ker Date: 12/12/2014  
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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) to develop a community-driven solar deployment plan for the State of Vermont.

The proposed project activities would include stakeholder recruitment and engagement, scenario analysis, use of solar analysis to evaluate net metering policy, and options in the distributed solar space. Scenario analysis and scenario analysis would be conducted to evaluate the distribution of solar and energy storage conversion. The proposed project would be limited exclusively to residential, commercial, or industrial facilities and would use no physical materials beyond basic office supplies and software.

Based on a review of the project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that the proposed project would not have a significant individual or cumulative impact to human health and/or environment. DOE has determined that this project is consistent with actions outlined in DOE categorical exclusion AS "Information Gathering, Analysis and Dissemination" and A11 "Technical Advice and Planning Assistance" and is therefore categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this project.

from the following language in the decision:

If you intend to make changes to the scope or objectives of your project you are invited to contact the Project Officer identified in Box 11 of the Notice of Final Administrative Action/Order processing. You must receive notification of approval from the DOE (contacting DOE prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved).

how is specific

Solar Energy Technologies Office

The NEPA Determination does not require a signed NEPA provision.

NEPA Review completed by Logan Blodgett

NOTE: THIS IS THE MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.