

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 : NWTC 5MW Dynamometer Paving Upgrade; NREL 14-008

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL 14-008	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 1378 (NREL NWTC)	Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's National Wind Technology Center
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Rationale for determination:

This proposed project would consist of paving gravel driveways of the recently built 5 megawatt (MW) Dynamometer Building (Building 258) located at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL) 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.

The paving upgrade project would provide a permanent asphalt surface to the existing gravel areas servicing Building 258. The areas to be resurfaced are the driveway access and parking areas on the west side of the building and the small driveway access east of the building that exists between an existing concrete pad to the main roadway (see attached Drawing C-101). This project would involve ground disturbance. The combined disturbance is approximately 0.18 acres (or 8,000 square feet).

A U.S. EPA General Construction Permit for stormwater is not required for this project since total disturbance is less than 1.0 acre. Even though, the project would be completed in accordance with NREL Procedure 6-2.16: Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Construction Activities: NWTC. Any mobile point emission sources from construction equipment would be negligible. Construction-related noise would consist of a short-term increase in ambient noise levels. Per agency consultations conducted during the Site-Wide Environmental Assessment for the NWTC (DOE/EA-1378), no cultural resources, threatened or endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands would be impacted by this proposed project. If any construction or construction-related activities occurs between mid-March and mid-September, a survey for ground-nesting birds would be completed by NREL's ESH&Q Office before these activities are initiated per NREL policy. NREL and all contractors would follow all federal, state, local safety and security regulations.

The proposed action to upgrade Building 258 access roads and parking lot with asphalt pavement was analyzed as part of the proposed action in the May 2002 Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment of NREL's NWTC (DOE/EA-1378). A Finding of No Significant Impact determination for DOE/EA-1378 was issued in May 2002. As this proposed project was analyzed as part of the proposed action in DOE/EA-1378 and with no extraordinary circumstances identified, the May 2002 FONSI determination applies to this proposed action.

NEPA PROVISION

Note to Specialist :

Completed by Amy VanDercook 2/21/14.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____

Electronically Signed By: Lori Gray / *Lori Gray*
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 2/21/2014

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: _____