

PMC-ND
(1.05.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: NREL

STATE: CO

PROJECT TITLE : NREL; NWTC 5 MW Dyno Paving Project; NREL Tracking No. 17-011

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-017-011	

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 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 (DOE) proposes to conduct site improvement activities around and adjacent to the 5-MW Dynamometer building located at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL) National Wind Technology Center (NWTC) 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.

Several planned activities constitute the whole of this project. Activities include:

- Installation of asphalt pavement over the approach and parking area on the west side of the 5 MW Dyno building
- Reformation of a swale in the area south of the paved area;
- Extension of water and sanitary sewer lines for future use;
- Installation of a trench drain in the new concrete paving area;
- Installation of a paved roadway on the east side of the building;
- Relocation of the fire hydrant at the southeast corner of the 5 MW Dyno building; and
- Installation of new bollards and replacement of culverts around the building construction areas.

Approximately 11,920 square feet (0.27 ac) would be disturbed for all of the above listed activities. These areas are currently heavily used by NREL for parking, storage, and site and research operations. The road work would take place on land currently covered in rock and/or road base materials or areas previously disturbed.

NREL is obtaining a stormwater permit for this and several additional projects being proposed as part of the site improvement plans for the NWTC. This permit would address the stormwater drainage impacts related to adding impervious asphalt and paving. All 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.

Per agency consultations conducted during the Site-Wide Environmental Assessment for the NWTC (DOE/EA-1914), project activities such as these would not affect cultural resources, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands. A designated threatened and endangered species habitat is located at the southeast corner of the NWTC, however, the proposed activities would be in the northern and western portions of the site and are not expected to adversely affect these resources.

Existing NREL health and safety policies and procedures would be followed including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments. Additional policies and procedures would be implemented as necessary as new health and safety risks are identified.

Based on the review of the proposed activities, DOE has determined that this project falls into the category of "infrastructure upgrades", which was analyzed in section 2.1.1.3 of the 2014 Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment of the NREL NWTC (DOE/EA-1914). DOE has determined that this activity is bound by the environmental impact analysis contained in these EAs and their respective FONSI, and no further NEPA review is required.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

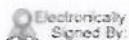
If the Recipient intends to make changes to the scope or objective of this project, the Recipient is required to contact the Project Officer, identified in Block 15 of the Assistance Agreement before proceeding. The Recipient must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior 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 :

NEPA review completed by Laura Margason on April 20, 2017.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:



Kristin Kerwin
NEPA Compliance Officer

Kristin Kerwin

Date: 4/24/2017

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: _____