

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 CoMET Gas Line

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-18-003	

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>DOE/EA 1914 (NREL NWTC)</b>	Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment of the Department of Energy's National Wind Technology Center at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
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## Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is proposing to install an underground natural gas line at the National Wind Technology Center (NWTC) in Jefferson County, Colorado.

The gas line would be located between the 5 MW Dynamometer and the Composites Manufacturing Education and Technology (CoMET) facilities at the NWTC. The purpose of the project would be to provide natural gas for space heating in the CoMET, which currently has an electrical heating system supplemented with a mobile rented unit for additional heat necessary for comfort and research during winter months.

Project activities would involve digging the trench, installing a bed of sand, installing the gas line, backfilling excavated materials, and then patching the asphalt. Activities would be expected to take about two weeks to complete and would start as soon as all approvals have been received.

The 1¼" gas line would begin near the existing gas meter on the west side of the 5 MW Dynamometer building and end ten feet west of the door on the north side of the CoMET building. Trenching would disturb approximately 600 sq.ft. of asphalt paved surface area. Laydown, soil spoils and adjacent work areas would be staged on paved hardscaping adjacent to the project site.

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. Existing NREL health and safety policies and procedures would be followed including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments.

There are no known cultural resources, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands at the NWTC, therefore this project would not adversely affect these resources. The site has designated critical habitat for the Preble's meadow jumping mouse at the southeast corner of the NWTC, however, the proposed activities would take place further east in the norther portion of the site and would not affect this habitat.

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 this EA and the 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.

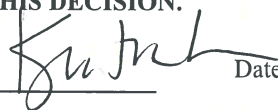
Note to Specialist :

NEPA review completed by Laura Margason on November 27, 2017

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

 Electronically Signed By **Kristin Kerwin**  
NEPA Compliance Officer



Date: **11/27/2017**

**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: \_\_\_\_\_