

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: NREL-19-009 Mesa Top HFSF Shed Project

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-19-009	GO28308

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Policy 451.1), I have made the following determination:

CX, EA, EIS APPENDIX AND NUMBER:

Description:

DOE/EA-1968 SITEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, U.S. DOE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY
(NREL STM) LABORATORY, SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN CAMPUS, GOLDEN, COLORADO

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) proposes to install a concrete pad, concrete pan, and pre-fabricated shed at the High Flux Solar Furnace (HFSF) on the South Table Mountain (STM) campus located in Golden, Colorado.

The proposed project initially involved the removal and replacement of a metal shed with a new, pre-fabricated shed that would be placed on the existing concrete pad. This scope was reviewed in a previous NEPA review, NREL-17-022, and was signed by the DOE NEPA Compliance Officer on September 19, 2017. Since that time, the shed has been removed but not replaced. NREL is proposing to change the scope of this work to include installation of a new concrete pad to support the new shed. The shed would measure approximately 18'2" x 16' x 9' and would be used for storage purposes only. The existing concrete pad from the previous shed would remain in place and be used for outdoor storage.

Approximately 400 square feet of ground would be disturbed during construction. A concrete pad would be installed to accommodate the shed measuring approximately 18'2" x 16'. Additionally, a 5'11" x 17' concrete pan would be installed to the north of the pad, a 5' rip-rap skirt would be installed to the south and east sides of the pad and pan, and a 1' landscaped trip would be installed along the west side of the pad. The pre-fabricated shed would include electrical heating and cooling units. Electrical lines to power the units would use existing electrical infrastructure and would be mounted overhead and tied in above ground; as such, no trenching would be required.

All work would occur on NREL property in areas that have been previously disturbed. Existing paved areas adjacent to the new pad would be used for material laydown. Any vegetated areas that are disturbed would be revegetated, and all ground disturbing activities would be conducted in accordance with NREL programs and procedures.

Project activities would not affect cultural resources, threatened or endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands, and no permits would be required. A migratory bird nesting survey would be completed if project activities occur between March 15 and September 15. If nests or eggs are found, the area would be cordoned off with a proper buffer until nestlings fledge.

Individuals working on this project could be exposed to physical and electrical hazards. Existing corporate 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 if new health and safety risks are identified. Workers could also be exposed to silica; engineering controls and air monitoring would be implemented as required, and respiratory protection would be used when needed.

Mobile air emissions from construction equipment, such as a skid steer, cement truck, and other vehicles, would be negligible and short-term. Fugitive dust would be controlled in accordance with NREL policies and procedures.

Construction-related noise would consist of a short-term, intermittent increase in ambient noise levels and would follow applicable noise ordinances. Construction waste would be reused, recycled, or disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations and NREL policy and procedures.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

A migratory bird nesting survey would be completed if project activities involving ground disturbance occur between March 15 and September 15. If nests or eggs are found, the area would be cordoned off with a proper buffer until nestlings fledge.

Notes:

NREL
Nicole Serio, 4/9/2019

FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATIONS

The proposed action (or the part of the proposal defined in the Rationale above) fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D. To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators), but the proposal may include categorically excluded waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment actions or facilities; (3) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to, those listed in paragraph B(4) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B(5) of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B.

There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal.

The proposed action has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion. This proposal is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.25(a)(1)), is not related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)), and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211 concerning limitations on actions during preparation of an environmental impact statement.

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____


Electronically Signed By: Kristin Kerwin
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 4/11/2019

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

- ☒ Field Office Manager review not required
☐ Field Office Manager review required

BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :

Field Office Manager's Signature: _____
Field Office Manager

Date: _____