

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-20-024 Terra Pave Product Testing - STM Campus](#)

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-AC36-08GO28308	NREL-20-024	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 (NREL STM)	SITEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, U.S. DOE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY, SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN CAMPUS, GOLDEN, COLORADO
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Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) proposes to apply a product for testing on a test plot created in the northwestern portion of the PVCATS area on NREL's South Table Mountain campus in Golden, Colorado.

The product that would be tested is Terra Pave "Top Seal White", which is a road coating designed to control dust and dirt on roads near solar field installations to reduce the amount of dirt cover on panels. In addition, the product is designed to increase the amount of solar radiation reflected from the ground to the backside of bifacial PV modules to increase the amount of electricity generated. The purpose of the project is to quantify the amount of solar radiation reflected from the Terra Pave product by measuring its albedo (ratio of reflected radiation to the incoming radiation).

The proposed project would involve creation of a 15' x 15' test plot using hand tools; vegetation in the test area would also be removed. Approximately 5 gallons of the Terra Pave product would be applied to the ground surface of the test plot. The product would be applied when no precipitation is anticipated. Albedometers and associated data acquisition equipment would also be installed.

Installation of the test plot and equipment; and application of the product is planned for May 2020. Data would be collected over approximately 3 to 6 months. When present, the albedo of snow would also be measured and compared to the product albedo.

At the conclusion of the project, the product and measurement equipment would be removed. The product and any affected dirt would be disposed of via municipal solid waste.

Ground disturbance would occur in areas that have been previously disturbed. All ground disturbing activities would be conducted in accordance with existing NREL policies and procedures that guide such work. Application of the product would result in a de minimis amount of air emissions.

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 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.

Individuals working on this project could be exposed to physical and chemical hazards. Existing corporate health and safety policies and procedures would be followed including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, and monitoring. Additional policies and procedures would be implemented as necessary if new health and safety risks are identified.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Include the following condition in the financial assistance agreement:

A migratory bird nesting survey shall be completed if project activities involving ground disturbance occur between March 15 and September 15.

Notes:

NREL
Nicole Serio, 04/28/2020

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Electronically Signed By: Lisa Jorgensen Date: 4/28/2020
NEPA Compliance Officer

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: _____ Date: _____
Field Office Manager