

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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

**RECIPIENT:** International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology**STATE:** CO**PROJECT TITLE:** Catalyzing the Mass Adoption of High Efficiency Technologies in the Multifamily Housing Market

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0002099	DE-EE0009080	GFO-0009080-001	GO9080

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:

A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology (ICAST) to build support for and interest in very high efficiency (VHE) technologies. This project would focus on the multifamily housing market through activities designed to educate owners, legislators, and government agency representatives about the costs and benefits of VHE heat pump heating ventilation and cooling and domestic hot water systems. This DOE project is fundamentally about ICAST providing education to and engaging key stakeholders in recruiting owner participation in pilot projects and then analyzing data and developing case studies from those projects. While DOE does expect installations of VHE technologies in multifamily housing to stem from project activities, no project funding is going toward the installation of these technologies and the DOE has no control or discretion over which technologies may be selected for installation or which multifamily home owner may choose to install those technologies. As such, DOE's NEPA review is limited to the scope of the DOE funded project which involves focusing on gathering data and research; plan development; education, outreach, consulting, and advocacy; walk-thru energy audits; and data analysis and sharing.

ICAST's work to secure 300 VHE installations at five pilot sites through development of a standardized data and pilot process and the utilization of pilot project data to build partnerships and provide education to aid in code and policy adoptions would occur at the ICAST offices in Boulder, Colorado. Potential project sites would have walk-thru energy audits performed with owners being provided an audit report showing the costs and benefits of installing VHE technologies as well as being provided access to subject matter experts to help answer any owner questions. Those owners choosing to install VHE technologies may be provided training on the proper operations and maintenance of the technologies chosen. Once installed, ICAST would begin to collect standardized post-installation data for each multifamily property enrolled in the project. Data would be collected via a combination of site visits, data monitoring and other means that would be determined once data needs and metrics are finalized for the project. Data analyses distilled down to cost-benefit tables and case studies would be completed leading to the information being disseminated through articles, conferences, policy outreach, and regulatory support activities.

Project activities consist of intellectual, academic, and analytical activities only such as design, data analysis, and data dissemination. Walk-thru energy audits and data collection activities would require the recipient to perform visits at pilot sites but project activities do not require any physical modification of facilities, ground disturbing activities, or installation of equipment. The project sites where these activities would occur depend on which owners choose to be

involved in the project which is not known at this time but based on the DOE project activities proposed, there would be no potential to cause effects to historic properties, assuming they were present, therefore DOE has no further obligations under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. DOE does not anticipate any impacts to resources of concern due to the proposed activities of the project.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

[Building Technologies Office](#)

This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.

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:



Casey Strickland

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 5/5/2020

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: