

PMC-ND
(1.08.09.13)

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



RECIPIENT: US Department of Energy EERE

STATE: DC

PROJECT TITLE: Prize: I AM Hydro Prize: America Made Water Prize

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number **Procurement Instrument Number** **NEPA Control Number** **CID Number**
GFO-IAMHydroPrize-001

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.)

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to authorize the administration of a prize competition known as the Innovations in Advanced Manufacturing Hydro Prize (Prize). Through Prize DOE seeks to identify opportunities to use advanced manufacturing in the hydropower sector.

The goals of the Prize are:

1. Catalyze the use of advanced manufacturing to drive down levelized costs of hydropower by seeking solutions that can dramatically lower initial capital costs and/or increase annual energy production;
2. Inform future, targeted investments by identifying high-impact opportunities to apply advances in manufacturing to address hydropower's critical challenges. WPTO may use the results of this prize to inform future prizes in the technology areas identified in this document;
3. Grow a community of innovators by bringing new innovators into the hydropower sector and help form new partnerships and collaborations between industry, academia, and government in order to accelerate innovative advanced manufacturing technologies for hydropower.

The Prize would consist of a single stage where innovators would submit a package of information that includes a detailed description of the problem being addressed and how it's relevant for hydropower, information to demonstrate that the concept is the right solution and advanced the state of the art, and evidence of the concept's feasibility and commercialization potential. Applicants will also submit a video pitch. Up to sixteen cash prizes could be awarded.

All activities would be limited to intellectual, academic, or analytical activities and would result in presentation and dissemination of information. No fabrication, laboratory work, or field testing would occur.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Water Power Technologies Office
This NEPA determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.
Review completed by Roak Parker, 5/11/2020

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.

DOE has determined that work to be carried out outside of the United States, its territories and possessions is exempt from further review pursuant to Section 5.1.1 of the DOE Final Guidelines for Implementation of Executive Order 12114; "Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions."

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: **Roak Parker**
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 5/12/2020

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: _____