

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

STATE: DC

PROJECT TITLE: Prize: Wave to Water

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number Procurement Instrument Number NEPA Control Number CID Number
 GFO-WavesPrize-002

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 Waves to Water Prize, designed to develop wave energy powered desalination systems.

As originally proposed, the Waves to Water Prize would be a 4-Stage contest to accelerate the development of small, modular, wave-powered desalination systems capable of potable drinking water. The four stages are CONCEPT, DESIGN, CREATE and DRINK. The Prize competition has now been amended to include a 5th Stage, ADAPT, to be held between the DESIGN and CREATE stages.

DOE previously completed one NEPA review which reviewed CONCEPT, DESIGN, and CREATE (GFO-WavesPrize.001,CX A9, 6/ 6/2019). This NEPA review is only for the ADAPT stage.

The ADAPT stage would involve competitors providing to DOE detailed technical plans originally created in the DESIGN Stage, but now adapted to be site specific for the proposed testing site, Jennette's Pier, in Nags Head, North Carolina. Work under the ADAPT Stage is limited to design work and supporting analysis of their proposed system.

Stage 4 remains restricted until further NEPA review is completed.

The prize contest would be administered by DOE and the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL). In addition NREL could hire additional reviewers and/or entities to help administer the prize competition including reviewing individual projects and completing administrative tasks.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination.

The NEPA Determination applies to the following Topic Areas, Budget Periods, and/or tasks:

Stage 1: CONCEPT
 Stage 2: DESIGN
 Stage 3: ADAPT
 Stage 4: CREATE

The NEPA Determination does not apply to the following Topic Area, Budget Periods, and/or tasks:

Stage 5: DRINK

Notes:

This NEPA determination does require a tailored NEPA provision
Water Power Technology Office
NEPA review completed by Roak Parker 6/18/2020

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.

A portion of the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review. The NEPA Provision identifies Topic Areas, Budget Periods, tasks, and/or subtasks that are subject to additional 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: 6/19/2020

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: _____