

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



**RECIPIENT:** Center for Transportation and the Environment

**STATE:** CA

**PROJECT TITLE :** Next Generation Fuel Cell Electric Top Loader and Mobile Refueler

**Notice of Funding Opportunity Number**  
DE-FOA-0003213

**Procurement Instrument Number**  
DE-EE0011527

**NEPA Control Number**  
GFO-0011527-001

**CID Number**  
GO11527

**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.)

**B3.11 Outdoor tests and experiments on materials and equipment components**

Outdoor tests and experiments for the development, quality assurance, or reliability of materials and equipment (including, but not limited to, weapon system components) under controlled conditions. Covered actions include, but are not limited to, burn tests (such as tests of electric cable fire resistance or the combustion characteristics of fuels), impact tests (such as pneumatic ejector tests using earthen embankments or concrete slabs designated and routinely used for that purpose), or drop, puncture, water-immersion, or thermal tests. Covered actions would not involve source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials, except encapsulated sources manufactured to applicable standards that contain source, special nuclear, or byproduct materials may be used for nondestructive actions such as detector/sensor development and testing and first responder field training.

**B5.15 Small-scale renewable energy research and development and pilot projects**

Small-scale renewable energy research and development projects and small-scale pilot projects, provided that the projects are located within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

**Rationale for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) to develop and demonstrate two fuel cell electric top loaders (FCETLs) and a wet-hose mobile refueler (WHMR).

Award activities would occur over four budget periods (BP). BP1 would include project management, development, building, and validation of the top loaders and mobile refueler, demonstration readiness, and outreach. BP2 would include further development, building, and validation of the top loaders and mobile refueler. BP3 would include demonstration readiness, vehicle demonstration and data collection, and outreach. BP4 would include project demonstration, outreach, vehicle commercialization, project management, and reporting.

Award activities involving project management and community outreach would occur at CTE Berkeley in Berkeley, CA and West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project Office in Oakland, CA. The FCETLs would be designed and built at the Hyster-Yale Group Facility in Nijmegen, Netherlands, the WHMR would be integrated at GTL in Catoosa, OK, and demonstration activities would occur at TraPac in Oakland, CA.

Award activities would occur entirely within existing facilities that are purpose-built for the type and scale of activities being proposed. No change in the use, mission, or operation of existing facilities would arise out of this effort.

Award activities would involve handling and use of hydrogen fuel. Project activities involving hazardous materials would pose no risk to the public. Hazardous materials would be utilized, managed, stored, and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local environmental regulations. Existing health and safety policies and procedures would be followed, including employee training, proper protective equipment, engineering controls, monitoring, and internal assessments. GTL and TraPac would work directly with the Oakland Fire Department and the Port of Oakland to obtain an operating permit for the proposed hydrogen fueling demonstration activities.

DOE has considered the scale, duration, and nature of the proposed activities to determine potential impacts on sensitive resources, including those of an ecological, historical, cultural, and socioeconomic nature, and found no effects that would be expected to result from the proposed project activities.

## NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO)  
NEPA review completed by Dustin Hill, 12/3/2024

## 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:



Melissa Parker

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

12/3/2024

## 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: