

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



**RECIPIENT:** Clean Energy Group, Inc.

**STATE:** VT

**PROJECT TITLE :** Resilient Power for Community Health Centers

**Notice of Funding Opportunity Number**

**Procurement Instrument Number**  
DE-EE0010799

**NEPA Control Number**  
GFO-0010799-002

**CID Number**  
GO10799

**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:

**B4.14 Construction and operation of electrochemical-battery or flywheel energy storage systems**

Construction, operation, upgrade, or decommissioning of an electrochemical-battery or flywheel energy storage system within a previously disturbed or developed area or within a small (as discussed at 10 CFR 1021.410(g)(2)) area contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and the integral elements listed at the start of appendix B of this part, and would incorporate appropriate safety standards (including the current National Fire Protection Association 855, Standard for the Installation of Energy Storage Systems), design and construction standards, control technologies, and best management practices.

**B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems**

(a) The installation, modification, operation, or decommissioning of commercially available solar photovoltaic systems:

1. Located on a building or other structure (such as rooftop, parking lot or facility, or mounted to signage, lighting, gates, or fences); or
2. Located within a previously disturbed or developed area.

(b) Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and the integral elements listed at the start of appendix B of this part, and would be consistent with applicable plans for the management of wildlife and habitat, including plans to maintain habitat connectivity, and incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

**Rationale for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to administer Congressionally Directed Spending to Clean Energy Group, Inc. (CEG) to install solar photovoltaic panels plus battery storage systems ("solar + storage") at multiple federally qualified community health centers (FQHCs) serving low-income communities in Vermont. CEG is a national nonprofit that provides technical assistance and support to community organizations seeking to explore and develop "solar + storage" for energy resilience and cost savings.

A previous NEPA Determination (ND) was written for this award (GFO-0010799-001; 12/12/2023; CXs: A9, A11) covering Tasks 1, 2, and 4. These tasks covered exclusively intellectual, academic, and analytical activities. These activities, including project administration and management, desktop research, outreach and engagement, and information sharing and dissemination would be carried out at their main office in Montpelier, VT.

Two FQHCs have been chosen for solar photovoltaic (PV) system, battery energy storage system (BESS), and associated hardware installations. Little Rivers Health Care ("Little Rivers"; Wells River, VT) and Danville Health Center/Northern Counties Health Care ("Danville"; Danville, VT) would be the sites for installation of 10kW to 100 kW solar PV panels, battery storage ranging from 20 kWh to 300 kWh, racking, inverters, and wiring.

At the Little Rivers site, two new car ports would be installed in the north parking lot. Their dimensions would be roughly 70-feet long by 22-feet wide, and their height would not exceed 13-feet. The carports would be installed using concrete pier foundations which would be dug to a maximum depth of eight feet. The solar panels would be installed on top of the car ports. The BESS, electrical cabinets, and inverters would be placed adjacent to the health center. Minimal trenching would be needed to connect the utility lines from the new carport to the building. The estimated footprint of the ground disturbance including the carports, foundations, and trenching would be 3,475 square feet. No solar panels would be installed, nor would any modifications be made to the potentially historically eligible building.

At the Danville site, solar panels would be installed on the southeast portion of the building rooftop. The dimensions of the array would measure approximately 72 feet by 29 feet. The BESS would be mounted on the external wall of the building, which would be connected to the electrical room on the first floor.

The Little Rivers and Danville sites have been identified as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Little Rivers site was built in approximately 1830 and an addition was added in 1960. The site is also located in the Wells River Village Historic District and located close to two properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Danville site was built in 1977, an addition was built in 2011, and renovations were made in 2022.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, DOE initiated consultation with the State of Vermont Division for Historic Preservation on August 21, 2025 with a finding of No Adverse Effect to historic properties for the Little Rivers Location, and No Historic Properties Affected for the Danville location. DOE also identified and consulted with two consulting parties, the Wells Historical Society and Danville Historical Society. DOE received concurrence with its determination on 9/18/2025 from Laura Trieschmann, the State Historic Preservation Officer of Vermont.

Waste generated during the project would be reused, recycled, or disposed of in accordance with applicable requirements. Air emissions resulting from project activities is expected to be de minimis. Project activities would result in a short-term, intermittent elevation in noise levels during construction.

Individuals working on this project could be exposed to various physical and electrical hazards during construction. Workers would adhere to health and safety policies and procedures.

DOE conducted a review of potential impacts to other resources of concern and identified no effects that would be expected to result from the proposed project activities.

For Categorical Exclusion Determinations:

- The proposal fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021 or Appendix B and C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures (June 30, 2025). To fit within the classes of actions listed in Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 1021, or Appendix B of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, a proposal must satisfy the conditions that are integral elements of the classes of actions in Appendix B of both 10 CFR Part 1021 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures.
- 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.
- The proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

## NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO)  
Review completed by Alex Colling on 9/23/2025.

**SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.**

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Electronically  
Signed By: Casey Strickland

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

9/23/2025

**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: \_\_\_\_\_