

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



**RECIPIENT:** Pacific Ocean Energy Trust

**STATE:** OR

**PROJECT TITLE :** Network Director for the TEAMER Program

Notice of Funding Opportunity Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-EE0008895	GFO-0008895-057	GO8895

**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:

**B3.6 Small-scale research and development, laboratory operations, and pilot projects**

Siting, construction, modification, operation, and decommissioning of facilities for smallscale research and development projects; conventional laboratory operations (such as preparation of chemical standards and sample analysis); and small-scale pilot projects (generally less than 2 years) frequently conducted to verify a concept before demonstration actions, provided that construction or modification would be within or contiguous to a previously disturbed or developed area (where active utilities and currently used roads are readily accessible). Not included in this category are demonstration actions, meaning actions that are undertaken at a scale to show whether a technology would be viable on a larger scale and suitable for commercial deployment.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide federal funding to the Pacific Ocean Energy Trust (POET) to administer the Testing and Access for Marine Energy Research (TEAMER) program. POET would collaborate with a Technical Board (TB) which would include representatives from DOE, DOE National Laboratories, and National Marine Renewable Energy Centers. The primary objective of TEAMER is to provide marine energy (ME) technology developers access to a network of facilities within the U.S. which provide testing and modeling assistance for ME technologies. Developers would apply for assistance through a competitive process.

DOE previously completed NEPA reviews which apply to all tasks. Considering the dynamic nature of TEAMER, however, POET conducts periodic reviews of facilities that request to join the TEAMER facility network. Any facility that requests to join the network or modify their existing support capabilities is subject to additional NEPA review in addition to a separate review conducted by POET and the TB.

For this review, the facility identified by POET is:

1. Montana State University, located in Bozeman, MT. This facility would conduct coupon, substructure static, and fatigue testing that would further improve composite structures and materials.

Project activities would occur in purpose-built facilities and would be consistent with their use. No new permits, facility modifications, or outdoor installations would be required. DOE has considered the scale, duration, and nature of proposed activities to determine potential impacts on resources, including those of an ecological, historical, cultural, and socioeconomic nature. DOE does not anticipate impacts on these resources that would be considered significant or require DOE to consult with other agencies or stakeholders.

If additional facilities are identified beyond those reviewed in this or previous determinations, or if the type of assistance offered by an approved facility is modified, additional NEPA reviews must be completed regarding those proposed changes.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination.

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

- All tasks are approved; however, selection of additional facilities, new activities, and Technical Support Recipients (TSRs) are subject to additional NEPA review. The following facility is approved to receive technical support for

activities proposed in the applications that were part of this review:

1. Montana State University

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

- Selections of additional facilities, new activities, and TSRs. Such additions are subject to additional NEPA review. All technical support activities must be completed by pre-approved facilities and must be the type of work where a signed NEPA Determination applies.

Notes:

Water Power Technologies Office (WPTO)  
NEPA review completed by Chris Akios, 03/18/2026

**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 10CFR 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.

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: Nicole Serio Date: 3/18/2026  
NEPA Compliance Officer

**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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager