



U.S. Department of Energy

Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Proposed Action Title: Thea Energy, Inc. -- Production of Superconducting Planar Magnets

Program or Field Office: Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy

Location(s) (City/County/State): Kearny, New Jersey

Proposed Action Description:

Funding will support the project team's small-scale research and development of planar shaping magnets (PSM) required for stellarator functionality to enable the commercialization of magnetic confinement fusion energy. Specifically, the project team will (1) identify material sources and ensure sufficient quantity is available to meet production volume needs; (2) complete final PSM design and manufacturing process; (3) test and validate models of design and process to meet predetermined metrics; (4) finalize design and manufacturing process; (5) procure materials and equipment to construct pilot PSM production line; (6) construct and install pilot production line; (7) manufacture 5 preliminary PSMs, test and validate to meet performance metrics; (8) manufacture 100 PSMs to meet production volume and performance criteria. If successful, this project will result in PSMs for use in fusion energy, particle accelerators, and other fields, ultimately reducing dependence on foreign energy imports, and thereby strengthening the U.S. energy supply.

Project activities will be conducted at existing facilities at Thea Energy, Inc. (Kearny, NJ) designed for the applicable activities. This project fits within the class of actions identified under the DOE Categorical Exclusions identified below. This assessment was based on a review of the proposed scope of work and the potential environmental impacts of the project. The project team has certified that project tasks will be conducted in accordance with established safety and materials/waste management protocols and pursuant to applicable Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements. Thea Energy, Inc. has not obtained all necessary permits and approvals applicable to their proposed action, nor identified where their manufacturing facility will be located in New Jersey, and is prohibited from commencing applicable project work until those permits and approvals are obtained and location is identified. Per the terms of the award, identification of the manufacturing site, a permits certification, and, if necessary, an amended NEPA Determination, are required prior to the conduct of applicable project work.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

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

For the DOE procedures regarding categorical exclusions, including the full text of each categorical exclusion, see 10 CFR 1021.102 and Appendix B to [10 CFR Part 1021](#), and also Section 5.4 (Applying one or more categorical exclusions to a proposal) and Appendices B and C of [DOE's National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures](#) (June 30, 2025).

Requirements and guidance in 10 CFR 1021.102 and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures: (See full text in regulation and in Implementing Procedures)

- ☒ 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 proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. DOE or an applicant may modify the proposal to avoid reasonably foreseeable adverse significant effects such that the categorical exclusion would apply.
- ☒ The proposal has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

[Note: For proposals that fit within the categorical exclusions listed in Appendix C of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures, see DOE's notice of adoption for the subject Appendix C categorical exclusion for additional considerations. DOE notices of adoption for other agency categorical exclusions may be found on [DOE's Section 109 webpage](#).]

Based on my review of the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer, I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other requirements and guidance set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA Compliance Officer: **GEOFFREY
GOODE**

Digitally signed by GEOFFREY
GOODE
Date: 2026.09.03 16:28:03 -04'00'

Date Determined: