

PMC-ND

(1.08.09.13)

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

**RECIPIENT:** Ascension Parish, Louisiana**STATE:** LA

**PROJECT TITLE:** Ascension Parish Ball Field Lighting Upgrades Project

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
	DE-EE0008650	GFO-0008650-001	

**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.)

**B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water** (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

Rationale for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to provide funding to the Louisiana State Energy Office to upgrade and/or add lighting to 10 athletic fields in Ascension Parish, Louisiana through their revolving loan fund. While proposed activities vary by location, overall efforts would include replacing existing halide lighting with LED lighting or installing new LED lighting and/or light poles. All wooden poles with LED lighting upgrades would be replaced with metal poles. Installation of this energy efficiency lighting could save 50% on energy bills over conventional lighting as well as lower maintenance costs

Proposed activities would occur at Sites #1-#10 listed below:

Site #1 - St. Amant Recreation Park  
45404 Stringer Bridge Road  
St. Amant, LA (3 fields)

Site #2 - Butch Gore Memorial Park  
14550 Harry Savoy Road  
St. Amant, LA (6 fields)

Site #3 - Paula Park & Playground  
16470 Paillette Street  
Prairieville, LA (5 fields)

Site #4 - Darrow Community Center Park & Playground  
37112 Martin Luther King Street  
Darrow, LA (1 field)

Site #5 - Leo Stevens Park & Playground  
43230 Cannon Road  
Gonzales, LA (6 fields)

Site #6 - Jackie Robinson Park  
35638 Coco Road  
Geismar, LA (1 field)

Site #7 - Modeste Park & Playground  
35444 Butler Road  
Donaldsonville, LA (1 field)

Site #8 - Prairieville Park & Playground  
38430 Hwy 929  
Prairieville, LA (1 field)

Site #9 - South Louisiana Fairgrounds  
717 Church Street  
Donaldsonville, LA (4 fields)

Site #10 - Southwood Park & Playground  
14318 Parkview Drive  
Prairieville, LA (1 field)

Site #1: The smallest of the three fields at this site does not have existing lighting. Metal poles with LED lighting would be installed around the field. The second field, has halide lights on wooden poles. The halide lights would be replaced with LED lights and the wooden poles would be replaced with metal poles. The third field has halide lighting on metal poles. Only the halide lights would be replaced with LED lighting.

Site #2: The playground area does not currently have existing lighting. Metal poles would be installed with LED lighting around the playground area. The largest field at this complex, does not have existing lighting. LED Lighting with metal poles would be installed around the field. One of the smaller fields, currently has metal halide lights on wooden poles. The wooden poles would be replaced with metal poles and the halide lights would be replaced with LED lighting.

Site #3: Two fields have existing halide lighting that would be replaced with LED lighting, and the wooden light poles would be replaced with metal. Additionally, the lighting control panel would be reconfigured to allow for more flexibility in lighting the different fields.

Site #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10: All the fields at these sites have existing halide lighting on wooden poles which would be replaced with LED lighting on metal poles. Site #9 is near two National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

listed properties, the Donaldsonville Historic District (NRHP Ref# 84001248) and the Landry Tomb (NRHP Ref# 82002752), but the replacement of the existing halide lighting with LED lighting would have no potential to cause effects on the listed historic properties.

Sites #1, #2, #5, #10 are located within the 100-year floodplain. After evaluation of the potential impacts, DOE has determined that the buried electrical lines and/or the addition of light poles would not have short-term or long-term adverse impacts to the floodplain. Additionally, DOE has determined that the project activities are not subject to the preparation and distribution of a notice of floodplain action as required under Subpart B of 10 CFR 1022 "Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements", as the project is a minor modification of an existing facility to improve environmental conditions and the requirement is not applicable (10 CFR 1022.5(3)).

Site #1 and #2 are the only two sites that do not have existing lighting and propose installing new light poles with lights. Trenching would be required for electrical connections for the new light poles, and all trenching would occur within the existing easement for utilities. Neither Site #1 nor #2 are listed on the NRHP and are not in or near a historic district. Neither site has terrestrial threatened or endangered species listed. The Red-Headed Woodpecker is listed as a possible migratory bird at both sites. DOE anticipates minimal impacts to this bird since no trees would be removed for the installation of the light poles.

Contractors would be required to follow all applicable disposal and recycling requirements.

## NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

Notes:

Weatherization & Intergovernmental Programs Office- State Energy Program  
This NEPA Determination does not require a tailored NEPA provision.  
NEPA review completed by Diana Heyder 09/16/2019

## 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.

The proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

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

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



Casey Strickland

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: 9/19/2019

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