

RECIPIENT: Hull Municipal Light Plant

STATE: MA

PROJECT Hull Offshore Wind Research and Development

| Funding Opportunity Announcement Number | Procurement Instrument Number | NEPA Control Number | CID Number |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 09EE0000326 | DE-EE0000326 | GFO-0000326-001 | 0 |

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have made the following determination:

CX, EA, EIS APPENDIX AND NUMBER:

Description:

A9 Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, audits), data analysis (including computer modeling), document preparation (such as conceptual design or feasibility studies, analytical energy supply and demand studies), and dissemination (including, but not limited to, document mailings, publication, and distribution; and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring.

Rational for determination:

Hull Municipal Light Plant, in Hull, Massachusetts, is proposing to use federal funding to develop a research workshop to improve offshore wind technology. The proposed project would engage government agencies, as well as industry, manufacturers, local colleges and universities to gain a better understanding of how to develop, install, operate and maintain offshore wind facilities.

The Hull Offshore Wind Research and Development Facility and Workshop would consist of two phases.

Phase 1 would consist of organizing and hosting an Offshore Wind R&D Facility Workshop to research, develop and analyze the concept of designing and constructing an offshore wind testing platform and wind energy generation facility. The objective would be to provide a public forum for industry, academia and government agencies to provide insight, experience and recommendations for an offshore wind research testing platform and an offshore wind energy generation facility.

Phase 2, contingent on a go/no go decision from Phase 1, would consist of the development of a project plan for the potential design, construction, operation and maintenance of an offshore wind testing platform and offshore wind energy generation facility.

No construction activities would take place in either Phase 1 or Phase 2.

In view of the information provided by the State and the recipient, DOE has determined that the impacts related to the proposed project are anticipated to have negligible affects on the human and natural environment. The proposed project is consistent with actions outlined in A9 (information gathering) and are, therefore, categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Cristina Tyler: 2/14/2011.

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION. NEPA Compliance Officer

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NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

Date: 2/16/10

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

Field Office Manager review required

NCO REQUESTS THE FIELD OFFICE MANAGER REVIEW FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

- Proposed action fits within a categorical exclusion but involves a high profile or controversial issue that warrants Field Office Manager's attention.
- Proposed action falls within an EA or EIS category and therefore requires Field Office Manager's review and determination.

BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :

Field Office Manager's Signature: ____

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Field Office Manager

Date:

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2/14/2011

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