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PMC-EF2a

2010.01

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
EERE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER  
NEPA DETERMINATION



RECIPIENT: WINData, INC

STATE: MT

PROJECT TITLE : Recovery Act: 20% Wind by 2030: Overcoming the Challenges

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-PS36-09GO99009	DE-EE0001388	GFO-10-013	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:

WINData is proposing to conduct studies and installations of met towers in order to demonstrate the value of off-site real-time met towers in reducing the uncertainty in the short-term forecasting of ramp events.

Tasks for this project include:

- Task 1 - Historical Data Review
- Task 2 - Offsite Meteorological tower siting (studies to determine optimal sites)
- Task 3 - Met Tower Installation
- Task 4 - PI Data Aggregation
- Task 5 - Link PI Met Data with AWST NWP Data System
- Task 6 - Connect to Plant Data System
- Task 7 - Validation of Forecast versus Plant performance
- Task 8 - Reporting to DOE and project partners

Specific locations of met towers are not known at this time therefore a NEPA determination cannot be made until additional information is provided on all installation sites.

Tasks 1, 2, 4-8 involve data collection, analysis, computer database development and studies to determine met tower locations; therefore a CX A9 will apply to these tasks only.

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a conditional NEPA determination for this award, and funding for certain tasks under this award is contingent upon the final NEPA determination.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are restricted from taking any action using federal funds, which would have an adverse affect on the environment or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to DOE/NNSA providing either a NEPA clearance or a final NEPA decision regarding the project.

Prohibited actions include:

Task 3 (including all subtasks and associated installation/construction activities)

This restriction does not preclude you from:

**Tasks 1-2 and 4-8**

If you move forward with activities that are not authorized for federal funding by the DOE Contracting Officer in advance of the final NEPA decision, you are doing so at risk of not receiving federal funding and such costs may not be recognized as allowable cost share.

Insert the following language in the award:

You are required to:

Submit an additional EF1 once all specific met tower installation sites are known with information on each. Please provide additional information on internal safety protocols for personnel installing the towers, details on tower height and footprint and a list of all permits and/or approvals necessary specific to the met tower install.

Note to Specialist :

This project has NEPA conditions for specific task activities. We recommend you place this project on ASAP approval.

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

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:

  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Date:

12/17/09

**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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Field Office Manager

Date:

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