



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



Program or Field Office: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

Project Title CA-TRIBE-TUOLUMNE BAND OF MEWUK INDIANS

Location: Tribe CA-TRIBE- CA
TUOLUMNE BAND
OF MEWUK
INDIANS

Proposed Action or Project Description

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:

The Tuolumne Band of MeWuk Indians proposes to reduce their fossil fuel emissions through increased energy efficiency and the implementation of renewable energy where applicable. Currently, the Tribe has contracted with the Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory (RAEL) of the University of California, Berkeley, to identify the most cost-effective opportunities for increased energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. The Tribe proposes to use a portion of the funding to allocate funds to RAEL for technical consultant services to assist the Tribe in identifying, prioritizing, and coordinating site specific energy audits for tribal housing. RAEL will also provide training classes on energy generation technology, policy, and economics, as well as life-cycle assessment and integrated approaches to environmental stewardship in the energy industry. Funding will be used in establishing a well-trained workforce of local tribal members to conduct site-specific audits of the residential housing and government offices to install, monitor, and operate the distributed renewable energy generation intended for the tribal buildings and residences. Training will also be provided by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) to community members in the appropriate manner to conduct energy efficient assessments and to train a local workforce of tribal members in basic electricity and thermal flows, energy auditing, and solar energy installations.

Conditions: None

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied: A9, B5.1

*-For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, see Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021.

This action would not: threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, including DOE and/or Executive Orders; require siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities, but may include such categorically excluded facilities; disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; or adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources (including but not limited to those listed in paragraph B.(4)) of Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021). Furthermore, there are no extraordinary circumstances related to this action that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the action; this action is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.

Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1B), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class(es) of action, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

ORO NEPA Compliance Officer

Gary S. Hartman

Date Determined:

5/11/2010