



U.S. Department of Energy Categorical Exclusion Determination Form



Program or Field Office: TRIBAL ENERGY PROGRAM
Project Title AK-TEP-ALASKA VILLAGE INITIATIVES
Location: Tribal ALASKA VILLAGE INITIATIVES

AK

Proposed Action or Project Descriptio

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:

Alaska Village Initiatives (AVI) (formerly known as Community Enterprise Development Corporation of Alaska) proposes to: (1) Develop a request for proposal for villages or institutions to apply for funding to conduct biomass feasibility studies. Approximately eight studies would be targeted for villages with biomass opportunities readily available and would be released state wide for interested villages. Part of the feasibility process would also include education and outreach on the components of implementing a biomass project in the village. (2) Conduct a resource assessment/feasibility study to determine the amount and quality of woody biomass available for use in Kodiak from local sources and Afognak Island to determine sustainable amounts and delivered costs of materials to Kodiak. This study would support the future development of a regional supply of biomass. (3) Conduct a review/feasibility study of opportunities for integration of various technologies with wood heating systems for increasing remote village energy and food security. (4) Utilize funds for communications and outreach to target communities in rural Alaska. Outreach activities may include conference/meeting attendance and sponsorships, media advertising, direct mailings, internet/website marketing, speaking opportunities, and similar activities deemed appropriate to the project. (5) Hire a contractor to manage the various tasks/deliverables, including development of feasibility studies, biomass availability studies, as well as provide technical support to various villages in developing sustainable renewable energy projects.

Conditions: None

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied: A9, A11

*-For the complete DOE National Environmental Policy Act regulations regarding categorical exclusions, see Subpart D of 10 CFR10 21

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:

7/18/2011

Comments:

Webmaster: