

PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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



RECIPIENT: NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

STATE: ND

PROJECT TITLE : STATE ENERGY PROGRAM

<b>Funding Opportunity Announcement Number</b>	<b>Procurement Instrument Number</b>	<b>NEPA Control Number</b>	<b>CID Number</b>
DE-FOA-0000643	NT43202	GFO-0043202-001	

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, 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.)

**A11 Technical advice and assistance to organizations** Technical advice and planning assistance to international, national, state, and local organizations.

**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.

**Rational for determination:**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided \$209,000 of federal funding to the State of North Dakota under the DOE's Annually Appropriated State Energy Program (SEP) for 2012. North Dakota will match the federal funding with \$101,800 in state funds. Additionally, North Dakota will carry over \$300,000 in federal appropriations, for a total of \$610,800

North Dakota proposes to fund the following Market Titles:

Buildings:

Under this Market Title, North Dakota would implement a "SMART METER & ENERGY DASHBOARD PILOT

PROJECT." Funding would be used for the purchase of initial software, installation, and training for smart meter use in various buildings in the state. Funding would also be used for study guides for the North Dakota Building Officials Association (NDBOA). Finally, funding would be provided to Red River Valley Community Action (RRVCA) to create a 401(e) Energy Efficiency Program to perform sixty (60) residential and six (6) small business energy audits.

**Electric Power and Renewable Energy:**

Under this Market Title, funding would be used to conduct a "Small Wind Turbine Workshop."

**Energy Education:**

Under this Market Title, funding would be used to hire an Energy Educator position at the Biosciences & Agriculture Engineer Department at North Dakota State University. Funding would also be used to conduct seminars promoting energy efficiency at high schools, Vo-Techs, and colleges around the state. Finally, funding would be used by the North Dakota Alliance for Renewable Energy (NDARE), which would create energy efficient concepts online courses and guides for homeowners.

**Industry:**

Under this Market Title funding would be used to conduct workshops, make presentations, publish articles and brochures, produce videos and use other forms of communication to inform residents of the benefits of no-till farming practices, energy efficient irrigation applications, energy efficient grain-drying techniques, and reducing chemical use, at the Agricultural Department at North Dakota State University. Funding would also be used to provide a sponsorship for the annual conference with the North Dakota Solid Waste and Recycling Association.

**Policy, Planning and Energy Security:**

Under this Market Title, funding would be used for administrative salaries, travel, fringe, and indirect costs.

Based on a review of the activities that would be funded under the above Market Titles, DOE has determined the projects that would be funded under these Market Titles will not significantly impact the human environment and they are categorically excluded from further NEPA review under CX A9 "information gathering," CX A11 "technical advice," and CX B5.1 "actions to conserve energy or water."

**NEPA PROVISION**

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

DOE Funding - \$209,000  
EF2a prepared by Melissa Rossiter

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

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

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

6/18/2012

**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 :**