

PMC-EF2a

(2.04.02)

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



RECIPIENT: City of Las Vegas

STATE: NV

PROJECT TITLE : RECOVERY ACT: CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NV ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
DE-FOA-0000013	DE-EE0000683.001	GFO-0000683-001	EE

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:

B5.16 Solar photovoltaic systems The installation, modification, operation, and removal of commercially available solar photovoltaic systems located on a building or other structure (such as rooftop, parking lot or facility, and mounted to signage, lighting, gates, or fences), or if located on land, generally comprising less than 10 acres within a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions would be in accordance with applicable requirements (such as local land use and zoning requirements) in the proposed project area and would incorporate appropriate control technologies and best management practices.

Rational for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has provided \$3,894,167 of federal funding to the City of Las Vegas, Nevada (City) under the DOE's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). DOE is proposing to authorize the expenditure of federal funds for the installation of five new solar canopy structures totaling 527 kW of solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity.

The City has a signed 'Statement of Work Template for Expedited NEPA Review'; however, the scope of this project was not covered under that template. This NEPA Determination applies to the authorization of funds to pay for the installation of the five solar canopy structures.

Under Activity #1, City Efficiency Program: City Facilities Solar Covered Parking Project, the City installed solar PV panels, support structures, and electrical systems at five locations:

East Las Vegas Community Center - 250 N Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101
 All American Park - 1551 S Buffalo Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89117
 Veterans-Memorial Community Center - 101 Pavilion Center Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89144
 Ed Fountain Park - 1400 N Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89108
 Mirabelli Community Center - 6200 Hargrove Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89107

All installation, construction and trenching activities occurred on previously disturbed land at existing parking lots in Las Vegas. Installed materials included thin film UniSolar PVL-136 panels with SMA SB6000 inverters, conduit, wiring and switchgear, steel for the carports, asphalt and concrete.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Endangered Species Program website identifies five species in Clark County, Nevada as threatened or endangered: Relict leopard frog, Yuma clapper rail, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Southwestern willow, and the Desert tortoise. Because the project was located on previously disturbed land at existing parking structures and is small in scale, DOE has determined the project is not likely to affect the listed species. There are no cultural resources, wetlands or floodplains within reasonable proximity to the project location.

Based on the review of project information and the above analysis, DOE has determined that the completion of Activity #1 did not significantly impact human health and/or environment. DOE has determined the project is consistent with actions contained in DOE categorical exclusion B5.16 "solar photovoltaic systems" and is 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:

If you intend to make changes to the scope or objective of your project you are required to contact the Project Officer identified in Block 11 of the Notice of Financial Assistance Award before proceeding. You must receive notification of approval from the DOE Contracting Officer prior to commencing with work beyond that currently approved.

Note to Specialist :

Kelly Daigle 12/18/2012

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature:  Date: 12/19/2012
NEPA Compliance Officer

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: _____ Date: _____
Field Office Manager