U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Program or Field Office: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants

Project Title: Pedro Bay Native Village Technical Consulting Services for Mini Hydropower Feasibility Study

Location: Alaska Pedro Bay Native Village

Proposed Action or Project Description: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: ☒

The proposed action would involve retaining an engineering consultant to complete a micro-hydro feasibility study for selected hydropower resources. As follow-up to a completed reconnaissance study, the consultant will collect additional field data necessary to develop conceptual and preliminary designs to include selection of intake site, penstock route, powerhouse site, material requirements, stream flow hydrology, integration with existing diesel, probable development costs, permitting requirements, estimate of available energy and capacity offered by the project, and benefits to the community. The Feasibility Study serve as the basis for soliciting funding to construct a micro-hydro project and provide long-term, low-cost energy to community of Pedro Bay as well as reduce emissions and reliance on diesel generated power/heat (primary goal of Pedro Bay's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy).

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

Select the appropriate categorical exclusion(s) from Appendix B to Subpart D of 10 CFR Part 1021 (for Appendix (A) use bottom two pull-down menus)

X- A9 - Information gathering/data analysis/document preparation/dissemination

X- A11 - Technical advice and assistance to organizations

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

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.

NEPA Compliance Officer: Jane Summerson Date Determined: Dec 4, 2009

Comments: Webmaster: Billie Newland Digitally signed by Billie Newland DN: cn=Billie Newland, o=Energy Enterprise Solutions, ou, email=Billie.Newland@hq.doe.gov, c=US Date: 2009.12.04 10:37:19 -05'00'

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