U.S. Department of Energy
Categorical Exclusion Determination Form

Program or Field Office: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants

Project Title: Native Village of Chitina Renewable Energy Technology - Solar Array for Community Hall

Location: Alaska Native Village of Chitina

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

The tribe proposes to install a 4.0 kW (16 210-kW panels) grid-tied solar array to fully power the tribal community hall with electricity and thereby lessen the tribe's overall dependence on diesel fuel to meet electrical demand. The array would be installed as a solar tracker mounted on a concrete footer (3' diameter x 10' deep) in a parking lot approximately 75' across from the community hall. An electrical conduit line would be trenched between the array and the hall. A new 60 volt power line 150 feet in length across the upper village road would also be installed as part of this project.

Categorical Exclusion(s) Applied:

X - B3.6 Siting/construction/operation/decommissioning of facilities for bench-scale research, conventional laboratory operations, small-scale research and development and pilot projects

X - B5.1 Actions to conserve energy

X - B4.12 Construction of electric powerlines approximately 10 miles in length or less, not integrating major new sources.

*-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: Mary Martin Date Determined: Dec 10, 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: 2009.12.14 14:01:32 -05'00'

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