

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY**

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MAKING  
INDIVIDUAL NEPA DETERMINATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES  
FUNDED FROM STATE ENERGY PROGRAM GRANTS**

**I. BACKGROUND**

The Department of Energy's (DOE's) procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) codified at 10 CFR Part 1021 require careful consideration of the potential environmental consequences of all proposed actions early in their planning. DOE must determine at the earliest possible time whether such actions require preparation of an Environmental Assessment, an Environmental Impact Statement, or are categorically excluded from further NEPA review. You must complete this Environmental Questionnaire regarding your proposed action to provide DOE with the information it needs to determine the appropriate level of NEPA review.

**II. INSTRUCTIONS**

In completing this questionnaire, you must provide specific information regarding the nature of your proposed action, including information on its size, operations, and the types and quantities of air emissions, wastewater discharges, solid wastes, land disturbance, etc. You should identify the location(s) of the proposed action and specifically describe the activities that would occur at that location. In addition, you should submit a copy of your statement of work (SOW) or other description of the proposed activity as it appears in your proposal or application. You should provide all of the information about a single project (including any "connected actions" as that term is defined under NEPA) in one questionnaire. If you are proposing two or more unrelated and distinct actions (e.g., a state or tribe applying for financial assistance for a number of separate energy conservation projects), you should complete a separate questionnaire for each project.

**III. QUESTIONNAIRE**

**A. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION (Original grant recipient should fill out items 1-4 if it is providing this form to others who are seeking loans or grants from the original recipient – for example, the original recipient is using SEP funds for a revolving loan or grant program.)**

1. Original Funding Source:  State Energy Program Grant
2. Original Recipient (Name of State, Tribe, Territory, or Other Entity): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Grant Number: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name of Market Title in the Original Recipient's Grant that Would Fund this Proposal:  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Proposed Action: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Proposer (if not the Original Recipient): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Description (Provide a detailed summary of the nature and extent of the proposed action. The electronic form will insert additional space as needed, or use an attachment if more space is needed.): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Summarize the activities necessary to implement the proposed action and list all locations where each activity will occur.

---

9. Does the proposed action involve disturbance of undeveloped land (e.g., forest lands, agriculture fields, grasslands, arid lands, wetlands, coastal areas, etc.).  
 Yes  No If yes, describe nature, extent, and duration of disturbance.

---

10. Describe the nature, size, and operation of any structure that will be constructed or installed as part of the proposed action.

---

11. Identify major materials and products (if any) that would be produced by the proposed action.

Materials Used (Input)	(Estimate Quantity)	Materials Produced (Output)	(Estimate Quantity)
<input type="checkbox"/> Coal	( )	<input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater	( )
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas	( )	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Emissions	( )
<input type="checkbox"/> Oil	( )	<input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste	( )
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity	( )	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste	( )
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	( )	<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity	( )
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Materials	( )	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Products – List	
<input type="checkbox"/> Others – List	( )		

---

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

This section asks for information needed to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed action. NEPA requires evaluations of the proposed action’s potential impacts on the environment (including land use; energy use; natural, historic, and cultural resources; and pollutants).

**1. Land Use**

a. Characterize present land use where the proposed action would be located.

- |                                   |  |                                      |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban    | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial        | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial  | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural             | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest   | <input type="checkbox"/> University Campus | <input type="checkbox"/> Other       |  |

b. Describe construction, development, and operation of the proposed action. \_\_\_\_\_  
 No construction would be anticipated for this project.

c. Would the proposed action be located in or near a park, monument, wilderness area, or any other area of natural, historical, or cultural significance?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

d. Would the proposed project(s) affect any existing body of water?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

e. Would the proposed project(s) be located within or impact a floodplain or wetland?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Vegetation and Wildlife Resources**

a. Identify any State- or Federal-listed endangered or threatened plant or animal species or habitat affected by the proposed action. \_\_\_\_\_  
 None

b. Would any threatened or endangered species habitat be affected by the proposed action?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

c. Describe any impacts that construction activities would have on any other types of sensitive or unique habitats.  
 No planned construction  No habitats  None  Impact (describe)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Socioeconomic and Infrastructure Conditions**

a. Would the proposed action generate increased traffic use of roads through local neighborhoods, urban, or rural areas.  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

b. Would the proposed action require new transportation access (roads, rail, etc.)? Describe location, impacts, costs.  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

c. Would any new transmission lines, pipelines or power line or other right-of-ways be required?  
 No  Yes (Describe location, voltage, and length of right-of-way)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Historical/Cultural Resources**

a. Describe any historical, archeological, or cultural places in the vicinity of the proposed action; note any sites included on the National Register of Historic Places.  
 None (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

b. Would construction or operational activities of the proposed action disturb any historical, archeological, or cultural buildings, structures, or sites?  
 No planned construction  No historic buildings, structures, or sites  Yes (describe)  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Would the proposed action interfere with visual resources (e.g., eliminate scenic views) or alter the present landscape?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Atmospheric Conditions/Air Quality?**

a. Would proposed action require issuance of new or modified air permits to perform project related work and activities?  
 No (explain)  Yes \_\_\_\_\_

b. Would the proposed action emit any pollutants regulated by the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS)?  
 No (explain)  Yes \_\_\_\_\_

c. Would the proposed action be classified as either a New Source or a major modification to an existing source under the federal Clean Air Act?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

d. Would the proposed action need to comply with the New Source Performance Standards?  
 Not applicable  No (explain)  Yes  
\_\_\_\_\_

e. Would the proposed project(s) be subject to Prevention of Significant Deterioration review?  
 Not applicable  No (explain)  Yes (describe)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Hydrologic Conditions/Water Quality**

- a. What is the closest body of water to the proposed action's location(s) and what is its distance from these locations. Site? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. What sources would supply potable and process water for the proposed action? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Quantify the annual amount of wastewater that would be generated by the proposed action.
- None
  - Non-contact cooling water (            gallons)
  - Process water (            gallons)
  - Sanitary and/or grey water (            gallons)
  - Other -- describe (            gallons)
- d. What would be the major components of each type of wastewater (e.g., coal fines)?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- No wastewater produced
- e. Identify the local treatment facility that would receive wastewater from the proposed action.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- No discharges to local treatment facility
- f. Describe how wastewater would be collected and treated.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Would any run-off or leachates be produced from storage piles or waste disposal sites?
- No     Yes (describe sources, nature of flow, and collection techniques)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Would the proposed action require issuance of new or modified water permits for operation or construction?
- No     Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- i. Where would wastewater effluents from the proposed action be discharged? \_\_\_\_\_
- No wastewater produced
- j. Would the proposed action require a permit to discharge effluents into a body of water?
- No     Yes (describe water use and effluent impact)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- k. Would a new or modified National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit be required?
- No     Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- l. Would the proposed action adversely affect the quality or movement of groundwater?
- No     Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- m. Would the proposed action use groundwater? If so, how much?
- \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Solid and Hazardous Wastes**

- a. Describe and estimate major non-hazardous solid wastes that would be generated by the proposed action. Nonhazardous solid wastes are defined as any solid, liquid, semi-solid, or contained gaseous material that is discarded or has served its intended purpose, or is a manufacturing or mining by-product (40 CFR 260, Appendix I).
- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None  | Quantity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal solid waste, i.e., paper, plastic, etc. | (_____)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coal or coal by-products                          | (_____)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other -- identify                                 | (_____)  |

- b. Would proposed action require new or modified solid waste and/or hazardous waste related permits to perform project work activities?  
 No  Yes (explain) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. How and where would solid waste disposal be accomplished?  
 On-site (identify and describe location)  Off-site (identify location and describe facility and treatment)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. How would wastes for disposal be transported? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Describe and estimate the quantity of hazardous wastes (40 CFR 261.3) that would be generated, used, or stored by the proposed action.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f. How would hazardous or toxic waste be collected and stored? \_\_\_\_\_
- g. If hazardous wastes would require off-site disposal, have arrangements been made with a certified TSD (Treatment, Storage, and Disposal) facility? Identify the TSD facility.  
 Not required  Arrangements not yet made  Arrangements made with a certified TSD facility  
Name and location of TSD facility: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Health/Safety Factors**

- a. Identify hazardous or toxic substances that would be used in the proposed action.  
 Hazardous or toxic substances that would be used (identify):  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. What would be the likely impacts of these substances on human health and the environment?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. Would there be any potential for workers to be exposed to toxic/hazardous chemicals or wastes?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Are there any special physical hazards associated with the proposed action?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Would safety training be necessary for any laboratory, equipment, activities or processes involved with the proposed action?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f. Describe any increases in ambient noise levels from construction and operational activities.  
 Increase in ambient noise level (describe)? \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Would construction result in the removal of natural barriers that act as noise screens?  
 No construction planned  No  Yes (describe)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Environmental Restoration and/or Waste Management**

- a. Would the proposed action include CERCLA removals or similar actions under RCRA or other authorities, meeting CERCLA cost/time limits?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Would the proposed action include siting, construction, and operation of temporary pilot-scale waste collection and treatment facilities or pilot-scale waste stabilization and containment facilities?  
 No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**C. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**

1. For the following laws, describe any existing permits, new or modified permits, manifests, responsible authorities or agencies, contacts, etc., that would be required for the proposed action:

- a. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- d. Water Pollution Control Act (WPCA)/Clean Water Act (CAA)/Underground Injection Control Program (UIC):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- e. Underground Storage Tank Control Act (UST)  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- f. Clean Air Act (CAA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- g. Endangered Species Act (ESA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- h. Floodplains and Wetlands Regulations:  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- i. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- j. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- k. Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA):  
 None  Required (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Identify any other environmental laws and regulations (Federal, state, and local) for which compliance would be necessary for this proposed action, and describe the permits, manifests, and contacts that would be required.  
\_\_\_\_\_

**D. DESCRIBE ANY ISSUES THAT WOULD GENERATE PUBLIC CONTROVERSY REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION.**

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 None

**E. WOULD THE PROPOSED ACTION PRODUCE ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT, OR ARE OTHER MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS PLANNED OR UNDERWAY, IN THE AREA?**

No  Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**F. SUMMARIZE THE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS THAT WOULD RESULT FROM THE PROPOSED ACTION.**

- None (provide supporting detail)  Significant impacts (describe)
- 

**IV. CERTIFICATION BY PROPOSER**

I hereby certify that the information provided herein is current, accurate, and complete as of the date shown immediately below.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPED NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY DOE**

I hereby certify that I have reviewed the information provided in this questionnaire, have determined that all questions have been appropriately answered, and judge the responses to be consistent with the efforts proposed. Based on the information in the questionnaire, I conclude the following (check the appropriate box):

- The proposed action falls under one or more of the categorical exclusions (CXes) listed in Appendix A or B of Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures and would not (1) violate applicable ES&H requirements, (2) require siting of waste TSD or recovery facilities, (3) disturb hazardous substances (excluding naturally occurring petroleum and natural gas), thus producing uncontrolled or unpermitted releases, and (4) adversely affect environmentally sensitive resources.

Additionally, the proposed action (1) would not present any extraordinary circumstances such that the action might have a significant impact upon the human environment, (2) is not connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts, and (3) is not related to other actions with cumulatively significant impacts.

Based on the Environmental Questionnaire and these conclusions, Categorical Exclusion of the proposed action would be appropriate.

- The proposed action does not qualify as a CX as identified in Subpart D of DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures; therefore, the proposed action may require further documentation in the form of an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement.

DOE NEPA Compliance Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

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