The proposed action (or the part of the proposal defined in the Rationale above) fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, and therefore may be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Rationale for determination:

1. The action is unlikely to result in environmental impacts, in part due to the action's small scale and lack of significant changes. The action includes energy efficiency and conservation measures that are designed to reduce energy consumption and environmental impacts. The proposed actions are intended 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 include financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and design firms), 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 information systems improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fuel consumption); water storage (such as rainwater harvesting 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 projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in an area that has not been disturbed or developed previously and that the covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include railroads, standard passenger cars, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.5(b) of this appendix. (2) Covered actions include railroads 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 raw 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 RODA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination.

FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATIONS

The proposed action (the part of the proposal defined in the Rationale above) fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix A or B to 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D. To fit within the classes of actions listed in 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, a proposal must be one that would not: (1) threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders; (2) require siting and development of new infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing or industrial plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (3) disturb invasive species, hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases; (4) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources, including, but not limited to those listed in paragraph B6 of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; (5) involve potentially environmentally destructive organisms, synthetic biology, genetically designed natural weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be conducted or continued in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those listed in paragraph B6 of 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B; and (6) have an adverse impact on a nationally significant site or feature.