

**NEPA Determination for the
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program
Application submitted by the Chippewa Tribe of MN on behalf of the White Earth Band
Financial Incentive Programs**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5, appropriates funding for the Department of Energy (DOE) to issue/award formula-based grants to states, U.S. territories, units of local government, and Indian tribes under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. DOE's authorization for this program is set forth in Title V, Subtitle E, of the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007. This CX determination is applicable to DOE elements reviewing and awarding formula-based and competitive grants under the EECBG Program, and includes, but is not limited to, EECBG Program activities under the purview of DOE-HQ Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, DOE Golden Field Office, and the DOE Oak Ridge Office. Financial incentive Programs would be established by various states, U.S. territories, units of local government, and Indian tribes.

The White Earth Band of the Chippewa Tribe would establish a weatherization and lighting materials financial incentive program to reimburse applicants for eligible activities. Qualifying items would include: insulated windows and exterior doors, door and window weather-stripping, caulking, window putty, door threshold insulation, replacement thresholds, rolled ceiling or wall fiberglass insulation, plastic sheeting, replacement sheetrock/compound for exterior wall repair with re-insulating, blown-in cellulose wall or ceiling insulation, and compact fluorescent light bulbs. Applicants would be asked for information on the initial assistance such as physical address, age of property, length of or ownership history in family, nature of the work proposed the funds, and any knowledge of the property's historic nature or architectural significance of the property. This information would be reviewed by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO). Recipients would be required to submit documentation stating what materials were purchased, their cost and documenting the installation site.

The application submitted and the technical review for this proposal do not reveal any extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, or to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211. The proposed development and implementation of energy efficiency and conservation strategies funded by this grant would not result in an adverse effect to historic properties included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), would not impact sensitive resources [e.g., threatened and endangered (T/E) species, wetlands and floodplains]. **This determination is limited to approval of reimbursements for the program-eligible activities identified above. Additionally, as identified in the White Earth Band's EECBG Project Activity Sheet, the THPO will check applicant addresses against listings of known properties of interest (on or eligible for the National Register), and, as necessary, field check the addresses. Properties raising any concern that they are on or eligible for nomination for the National Register will not be granted program eligibility.**

A1 and B5.1 are the applicable CXs that cover the proposed action in the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures, 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix A and Appendix B.

