



# U.S. Department of Energy

## National Environmental Policy Act- Determination Form

Program Office: EERE-BTP

Project Title: Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Design Standards for New Federal Buildings; Methodologies and Procedures for

Project Location: \*- Nationwide New Federal Buildings; Methodologies and Procedures for Life Cycle Cost Analysis

Proposed Action or Project Description:

RIN#: 1904-AC13

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is issuing a final rule that implements provisions in the Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, that require DOE to establish sustainable design standards for the siting, design, and construction of all new Federal buildings. The standards in this final rule apply to all new Federal Buildings and to certain major renovations. Under these regulations, if a Federal agency chooses to use a green building certification system for a new building or major renovation covered by this rule, the green building certification system must meet the certification standards established in this rule. This final rule also requires the use of solar hot water heaters in certain new buildings and major renovations covered by this rule, to the extent life-cycle cost-effective. Finally, this final rule also updates the maximum period for estimating and comparing life-cycle costs for Federal buildings from 25 years to 40 years.

Class of Action(s) Applied:

C12. Siting/construction/operation of energy system prototypes

\*-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:

*Richard Lawrence*

Date Determined: Sep 14, 2011

Comments:

Issued by EE-1

*H Kelly*

Henry Kelly  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

*9/21/2011*

Date

