

Attachment 20A

Explanatory Note for General Services Administration (GSA) Report November 2, 2009

As required by ARRA Section 1609, GSA's NEPA status report is enclosed. Each of GSA's eleven Regional NEPA Experts submitted spreadsheets for the projects funded in their region. Their submissions are based upon their review of existing project scopes and descriptions. Regional submissions were reviewed and consolidated by GSA Central Office staff in the Environment Division.

One hundred fifty-six of GSA's 159 pending NEPA actions were pending in the previous report. Of these 156 actions, 145 are CEs, 9 are EAs, and 2 are EISs. The vast majority of pending NEPA actions are underway and no undue delays are expected. In several regions, Environmental Assessments (EAs) are underway with expected completion dates in early spring. Many of GSA's projects are still undergoing scope clarifications and in some cases feasibility studies are underway. In some regions the majority of projects are on historic buildings, so GSA continues to work on National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) consultation. Categorical exclusions (CEs) are expected for most renovation projects once scope details are defined and commissioning reports are completed. Other ongoing activities include Section 106 consultations, Coastal Zone Management Consistency Determinations, and clarifying potential hazardous materials issues (asbestos, etc). Two regions reduced these pending actions by almost 30% when they issued a total of forty-five CEs in early October. These completed NEPA actions will be reflected in the next report.

Revisions Since the Previous Report

The following revisions have been made to GSA's NEPA status report since the previous report:

- The "Date NEPA is Done" for the NM – Columbus U.S. Land Port of Entry (row #4 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet) has been changed to 15 July 2009 to reflect the finalization of the review period for public comment and all environmental reviews are now reported as completed.
- The 2 Lighting Replacement projects in Wilmington, DE and Charleston, WV have been split into separate line items (rows #92-93 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet).
- The 2 Photovoltaic projects in Richmond, VA and Philadelphia, PA have been split into separate line items (rows #94-95 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet).
- The Advanced Metering of Utilities and Replacement of Deteriorated Roofs projects (rows #165 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet) have been reduced by 1 to reflect an accurate number of 13 projects in Texas, changing the line item to a total of 26 projects.

- The NEPA Action for the Peach Arch-US Land Port of Entry, Blaine Washington (rows #195 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet) has been changed from an EIS to a CE due to the nature of the project. The project has also been moved from the “Border Stations and Land Port of Entry” Program to the “High Performance Green Building Limited Scope” Program.
- The Anchorage Federal Building Light Replacement and Building Tune-Up has been split into two projects (rows #206-207 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet).
- Three projects have been identified under the High Performance Green Building Small Projects Program and have been added to Page 2 of the spreadsheet (rows #211-213) and are reflected in the Page 1 of the spreadsheet in the column “Number of ARRA Funded Projects/Activities.” Specific projects and activities will continue to be incorporated into this Program and will be included the ARRA NEPA Status Report as they are identified.

Obligations

GSA has obligated \$1,689,197,486 to ARRA funded projects as of 30 September 2009. This figure is less than GSA’s reported obligations found on the recovery.gov website, totaling \$1,691,862,241. This difference is a result of the administrative obligations totaling \$2,664,755 which were not included on GSA’s ARRA NEPA Status Spreadsheet.

NEPA N/A

The Acquisition of Fuel Efficient Vehicles has been designated as 'NEPA Not Applicable'. This program involves the acquisition, allocation, and delivery of motor vehicles procured with the \$300 million appropriated to GSA by ARRA. The vehicles acquired under this program are not added to GSA’s inventory, are intended to replace existing vehicles, and will be allocated to and used by agencies requesting the fuel efficient vehicles. The act in itself of procuring a piece of personal property for another agency’s use is an administrative action taken on behalf of another agency which is responsible for the NEPA review of its actions.

Administration and Oversight of ARRA-funded Activities

The following programs included in GSA’s ARRA appropriation are not listed on the spreadsheet because they are administrative programs supporting the management, oversight, and administration of ARRA projects and activities:

- Rental of Space;
- Building Operations;
- Training and Apprenticeship Program;
- Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board; and

- Office of High Performing Green Buildings.

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