

DECISION MEMORANDUM AND CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
San Juan Field Office
Anasazi Heritage Center
COS07000**

Categorical Exclusion # **DOI-BLM-CO-S010-2010-0022CX**

Anasazi Heritage Center (AHC) Solar Array Installation Project
Montezuma County, Colorado

1.0 DECISION

This Decision approves the AHC Solar Array Installation Project. Photovoltaic Panels will be installed on the AHC building roof and on the ground adjacent to the existing sewer drainfield (previously disturbed during construction). Underground conduit will be installed by boring under the ground in previous disturbance adjacent to the AHC employee access road and behind the employee parking area and maintenance sheds to the northeast corner of the building.

2.0 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

This action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1:

1.7 Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects).

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM2 apply.

I considered potential impacts to cultural and natural resources and determined there will be no impacts because the solar array installation will occur on the AHC roof and in areas that are disturbed by previous construction and maintenance activities. No mitigation is required. All activity will take place either on the AHC roof or in previously disturbed areas.

3.0 LAND USE PLAN

The proposed action is in conformance with the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Resource Management Plan (June 2010). A description of relevant land use plan language is attached.

4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The public was notified of the Solar Array Project in the context of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Projects press releases.

5.0 APPEALS AND IMPLEMENTATION

Within 30 days of the receipt of this decision, the public has the right of appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at 43 CFR 4.400. Appeal and stay procedures are outlined in Form CO-050-1840-191.

6.0 CONTACT PERSON:

For additional information contact LouAnn Jacobson, Monument Manager, Canyon of the Ancients National Monument (970)-882-5616.

7.0 SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

signed

LouAnn Jacobson
Monument Manager,
Canyon of the Ancients National Monument

06/28/2010

Date

AHC Solar Array Installation Project Land Use Plan Conformance Review

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
<i>Goal:</i> Develop and maintain the smallest number of facilities and infrastructure necessary in order to provide for public safety and to assist in meeting resource management objectives.
<i>Objectives:</i> 1. Coordinate the development and maintenance of facilities and infrastructure with adjacent landowners (including Hovenweep National Monument, the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation, the Navajo Nation, the Utah BLM Monticello Field Office, and private landowners). 2. Ensure that all major BLM facilities are located outside of the Monument in order to protect Monument resources and to provide economic opportunities in the local communities.
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: ALLOWABLE USES AND ACTIONS
Use the AHC as the headquarters and primary visitor contact station for the Monument.
Maintain existing facilities, subject to compliance with current policies and practices, provided that Monument resources are protected.
Implement facility and infrastructure BMPs, as determined appropriate.

