
ROOFTOP PHOTOVOLTAIC PANEL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, FORRESTAL BUILDING
1000 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, D.C.

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996 and 40 U.S.C §8722 (b) (1), I approve the preliminary and final design for the roof-top photovoltaic panel demonstration project at the Forrestal Building at 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, in Southwest Washington, DC, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 81.00(38.00)41522.

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The General Services Administration (GSA) in cooperation with the Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted a roof-top solar photovoltaic demonstration project for the Forrestal Building located at 1000 Independence Avenue, SW. The proposal is in response to the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, and Presidential Executive Order 13423 which require for federal facilities to decrease energy consumption over the coming years.

Under this 20 year demonstration project, DOE will install a 205kW system of solar panels on the roof that will generate approximately 200 megawatt-hours of electricity each year in renewable energy. The photovoltaic panels will be integrated into the existing roof system and will be completely invisible from the street level and all other vantage points below the roof line. The panels are a few inches tall and will sit far below the existing four foot parapet of the building that is in conformance of the Height of Buildings Act.

The panels are designed as paver tiles and will interlock with the existing paver tiles on the roof. They will be placed on the center area along the north side of the roof because other roof locations will be shaded by the elevator towers.

The solar panels are extremely portable and can be reconfigured and/or moved to a new location with ease in the event any future plans require moving the array from the Forrestal roof.

As a Federal Project, NCPC has approval authority and independent responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. NCPC has determined that this project qualifies as a categorical exclusion under its environmental and historic preservation policies and procedures. The building is not a historic resource and GSA has determined that the project is not subject to further review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. No surrounding historic properties will be affected. Staff concurs.

The Coordinating Committee coordinated the proposal among participating agencies at its meeting on May 14, 2008.

Marcel C. Acosta
Executive Director