



USAID/ANE Scoping Statements & Environmental Assessment EA 101 SS & EA Small-Group Exercises 1, Analysis

- 1. A Positive Determination for a proposed activity under Reg. 216 is required when the proposed action is expected to have a significant adverse impact on the natural or artificial environment. What are some of the types of activities that would likely require a Positive Determination?**
- 2. Under 22 CFR 216 and related USAID environmental policy, proposed activities with potential significant adverse environmental impacts should include consultation with the public, concerned organizations, and relevant agencies. Give some examples of the public, concerned organizations, and relevant agencies. Do you think alerting these stakeholders is reasonable; after all it's not their money?**
- 3. A proposed large construction project beside a major river in the Middle East is likely to create dust, noise, construction debris, and traffic during construction, and ongoing wastewater, waste sludge, solid and hazardous waste during the project life. Do you think an Environmental Assessment is required and why? Do you think that an EA is a good idea in this case and why?**
- 4. The use of acutely hazardous materials like chlorine, hydrogen sulfide, ammonia, and hydrogen chloride should be discouraged for environmentally sound design because they are life-threatening if released to the environment. How would you discourage the use of such materials? Be specific.**
- 5. You are given a scoping statement for an Environmental Assessment to review for a proposed large water treatment plant which would take large quantities of water from a major river for treatment and distribution for potable or municipal drinking water use. What are the likely environmental items that you think such a project should consider? How could they be mitigated?**

6. **A proposed desalination plant in a crowded neighborhood would use acutely hazardous chlorine gas to treat water for odor and bacterial control. What human health and environmental challenges do you anticipate in the procurement, delivery, management, and use of chlorine gas? What alternatives are available?**
7. **The construction of a large diesel-driven energy plant is being proposed as a USAID activity. What human health and environmental challenges do you anticipate in the procurement, delivery, management, and use of diesel oil? What alternatives are available?**
8. **An economically and socially important \$100 million alternative livelihoods project would create a business and training center and a commercial complex. The project would destroy the habitat of several recognized endangered and threatened animal species. What alternatives might you envision? Be specific.**
9. **A proposed \$500 million road rehabilitation project might be expected to have what kind of significant adverse environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**
10. **A proposed dairy farm cooperative would improve livestock, milk and cheese production, and employment. What would be the likely significant adverse environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**
11. **A large coffee and vanilla bean growing and processing facility is being planned in East Asia. What would be the likely significant adverse environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**
12. **A children's hospital is proposed to be constructed on raw land. What conditions might be prudent to consider for environmentally sound design and to protect human health and the environment?**
13. **An airport expansion is planned that will involve filling in wetlands and disturbing adjacent tidal bay waters, removing the local natural wildlife habitat, and laying down heavy building equipment and materials over large land areas for several seasons of construction. In addition, the mating of a nearby endangered fish species occurs every winter in the adjacent tidal waters. What would be the likely significant environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**
14. **A natural gas pipeline is planned to go through several rivers and states. It will have lift stations which use lubricants and pipeline reaches which use rust inhibitors. Wetlands and river habitats will be breached but not destroyed. What would be the likely significant environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**

15. **An established wastewater treatment lagoon in the arid Middle East has been overloaded for decades due to increases in population. A proposed intervention is to replace the aeration system with onsite manufactured liquid oxygen aeration to increase the treatment capacity by nearly five times or reduce the treatment holding time to nearly 20 percent. What would be the likely significant environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**
16. **An existing wastewater treatment plant is being modified to accommodate wastewater reuse for irrigation of dates and odor control. Modifications will create a large amount of biosolids or wastewater sludge. What would be the likely significant environmental impacts? How could they be mitigated?**
17. **A scoping statement is not necessary to perform an Environmental Assessment if the contractor has experience in the activity and in the host-country. Do you agree, and if so, why?**
18. **Compliance with Reg. 216 is optional and voluntary; it is not mandatory. Do you agree and if so, why?**
19. **How would you use a checklist to assist in implementing mitigation measures from an Environmental Assessment?**
20. **In developing a Scoping Meeting to prepare a final Scoping Statement for an Environmental Assessment, what would you take into consideration in language, timing, location, promotion and outreach, and record keeping?**
21. **In preparing a focused Environmental Assessment, what issues can be left out of the assessment, based on what criteria or recommendations?**
22. **Under what circumstances would you use a Programmatic Environmental Assessment?**
23. **Is it sufficient to check only with community and agency leaders rather than directly impacted persons in preparing a scoping statement, and why?**
24. **If the potential adverse environmental impacts of a proposed project are nasty, does that automatically require that the project be cancelled? If yes or no, why?**
25. **What are the benefits of incorporating the U.S. Green Building Councils' Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) technical criteria? Do you think it's worth the time, energy, and cost?**