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JOINT AGREEMENT FOR INTERAGENCY COORDINATION
OF AREAWIDE WASTE TREATMENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING
ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
BETWEEN
THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

11/74

PURPOSE

This interagency agreement defines the relationship between areawide waste treatment management planning conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers under its Urban Studies Program and areawide waste treatment management planning authorized under Title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 and administered by the Environmental Protection Agency. The agreement also acknowledges that the Corps of Engineers may provide technical assistance in 208 planning outside the Army Urban Studies Program.

The Army Corps of Engineers is authorized by specific resolutions of Public Works Committee of Congress to conduct regional wastewater management planning for designated urban regions of the United States. Such planning is normally conducted in conjunction with other urban water resources problems as part of the Corps of Engineers Urban Studies Program. Further, Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (P. L. 92-500) authorizes the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to provide consulting and technical assistance to planning agencies designated under Section 208(a) in developing and operating a continuing areawide waste treatment management planning process under Section 208(b) upon request of the Governor or the designated planning agency.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in fulfilling his responsibility for administering P. L. 92-500, is required by the Act to encourage and facilitate the development and implementation of areawide waste treatment management plans. Subsection 208(f) authorizes the Administrator to make grants to designated planning agencies to develop and operate continuing areawide waste treatment management planning processes in accordance with specific requirements of Section 208. The Act further authorizes the Administrator under Subsection 208(g) to consult with and provide technical assistance to a designated agency upon request of the Governor or the designated 208 agency.

While each Federal agency executes its areawide waste treatment planning responsibilities in a different manner -- the Army through technical assistance and the Environmental Protection Agency primarily through grants, the two programs are compatible and are designed to achieve the same goal. The provisions delineated in this agreement are intended to provide guidance to representatives of both agencies in instances where the two programs may involve the same geographical area.

OBJECTIVES

A common goal of both agencies is to enhance the capability of local and State governments in developing regional wastewater management planning processes which will achieve the National water quality goals stipulated in P. L. 92-500. In accordance with this goal, three specific objectives have been established for the areawide waste treatment management planning program.

These are:

- (1) development of a local planning process which can successfully conduct the required planning on an areawide scale;
- (2) development of an initial plan meeting requirements of the Act; and,
- (3) establishment of a continuing planning process at the regional level which can successfully evaluate the current plan and appropriately update such a plan to allow continued annual recertification by the Governor as required by the Act.

COORDINATING PROVISIONS

1. Planning by the Corps of Engineers under the provisions of Section 208 will be to the level of precision required by the Administrator for approval of any plan certified and submitted to him by any Governor under Section 208.
2. Acceptance of request by the Secretary of the Army to provide consultation or technical assistance in areawide wastewater management planning is contingent upon the resources and manpower available to the Corps of Engineers to provide such assistance.
3. The Corps of Engineers will assign appropriate priority to planning required by Section 208 to enable the designated planning agency and/or the Governor to comply with time limitations prescribed by the Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

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9. Technical assistance provided by the Corps of Engineers may include the development of alternative plans or portions of plans for meeting the provisions of Section 208(b). The decision to adopt or implement specific alternatives or proposals generated by this planning is the responsibility of the designated planning and the designated management agency(ies).

10. Technical assistance provided by the Corps of Engineers for designated 208 areas not included in the urban studies program will be accomplished as directed by the designated planning agency.

11. Upon request of the Governor(s), and upon agreement of the Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, the Army Corps of Engineers may consult with and provide technical assistance on a reimbursable basis in developing State plans for areas not designated under Section 208(a).

FUNDING POLICY

Funding policy is based on the premise that a designated agency needs to fully participate in the planning process and to build planning expertise.

1. Section 208 studies initiated through 30 June 1975 can be at 100% Federal expense except that costs and effort provided by non-Federal interests prior to designation will not be reimbursed. For areawide wastewater management studies of designated areas initiated through 30 June 1975, the source of Federal funds by planning category will be as follows:

a. Section 208 planning included in Army urban studies will be funded 75% by Army and 25% by the Environmental Protection Agency. (The funds from the Environmental Protection Agency will be granted to the designated agency for internal activities.) Section 208 planning added to planning already included in Army urban studies will be funded 100% by the Environmental Protection Agency.

b. Section 208 planning by the Corps of Engineers in areas not associated with the Army Urban Studies Program will be funded 100% by EPA.