



The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guides Federal agencies on the integration of environmental and public considerations into their decisionmaking processes. NEPA regulations ensure that environmental impacts of proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions are considered.

As part of the rulemaking process and in accordance with NEPA policy, Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental impacts of its current regulations and analyze the possible impacts of potential revisions to its regulations regarding the importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of genetically engineered organisms.

The draft EIS provides a detailed analysis of the proposed revisions and describes the effects of proposed revisions on the environment.

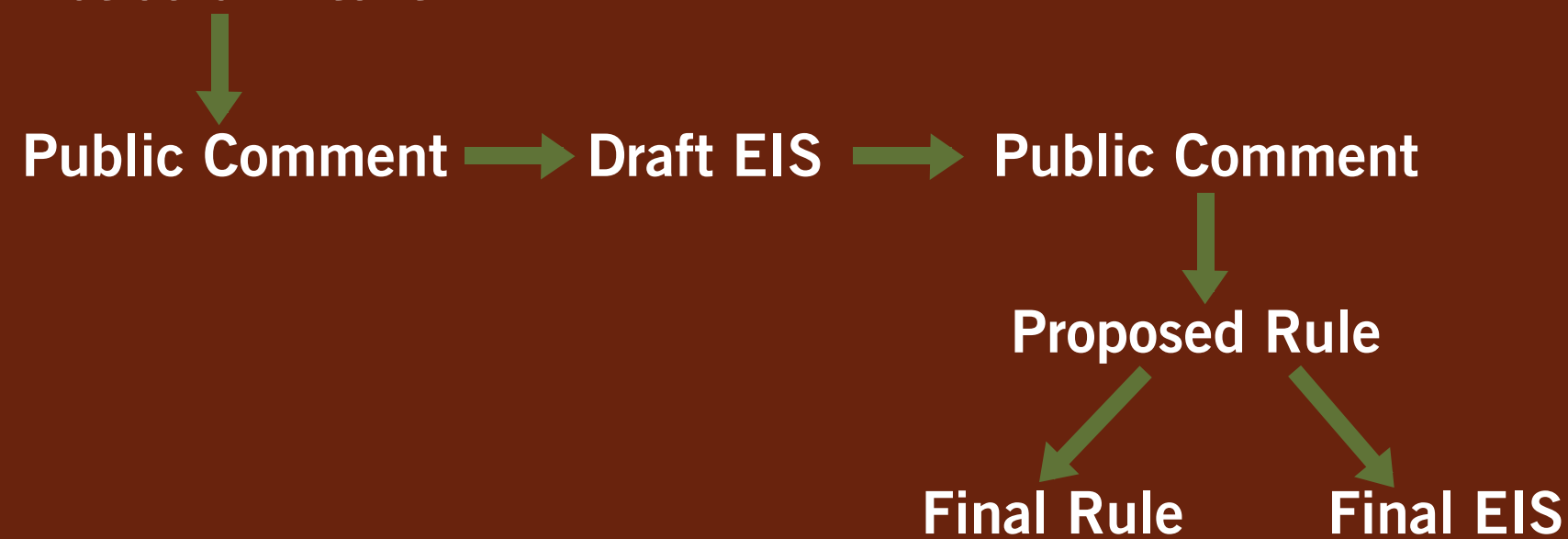
The purpose of the draft EIS is to:

- Identify the issues,
- Develop action alternatives,
- Consider and disclose environmental impacts,
- Allow for public input and comment, and
- Inform the decisionmaking process.

Public involvement leading to an informed decision is the cornerstone of NEPA.

The information and proposed changes contained in the draft EIS will assist BRS in making an informed decision regarding regulatory and policy changes and will help define the rationale for these recommended changes. In addition to the draft EIS, BRS will use the comments you contribute, other public comments received, and the latest scientific information for any proposed new regulations (a proposed rule).

Notice of Intent



NEPA is intended to enrich the understanding of ecological systems and natural resources. Photo courtesy of USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



NEPA regulations ensure that environmental impacts are considered.



NEPA encourages harmony between people and their environment.