

RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

From: "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <"/o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=eae5b047f871428b9b46baf8afd1176a-bo">
To: "Symmes, Gregory" <gsymmes@nas.edu>
Cc: "Staudt, Amanda" <astaudt@nas.edu>, "DeFeo, Laura" <ldefeo@nas.edu>, "Geller, Laurie" <lgeller@nas.edu>, "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 03 May 2018 20:35:30 -0400

Greg,

I regret having taken so long to get back to you. I was at an Arctic Council meeting on environmental impact assessment in Canada last week which, coincidentally, was directly related to this proposal. I'd like to talk with you tomorrow or next week about potential NAS participation in the CEQ update to its NEPA regulations, which would be the first comprehensive update of the regulations in 40 years. Today, OMB recorded the receipt of our ANPRM for clearance (see <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eoReviewSearch>). If you are available tomorrow afternoon or next Monday afternoon, I'd like to talk with you about this.

Regards,
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From: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 1:50 PM
To: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <ASTaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
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730 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

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202-334-2500
gsymmes@nas.edu

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Date: Fri, 04 May 2018 07:35:20 -0400

4pm would work nicely
I can send around a conference line
There are no materials to share at this point
Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On May 4, 2018, at 7:18 AM, Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu> wrote:

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We look forward to talking with you. Are there any background materials? I was able to find the notice on OMB's website (<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eoDetails?rrid=128051>) but don't see any supporting documents. If there are any such documents that you can share please send them along so we can look them over before our call.

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[No Subject]

From: "Patella, Michael A. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=8e0d7ae5c8e44276903a9c5c51eb67d7-pa">
To: "Vandegrift, Scott F. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Herrgott, Alex H. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Rusnak, Allison B. EOP/CEA" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 07 May 2018 16:38:18 -0400

Just out on E&E... Nice "plotting"

REGULATIONS

White House plots update to NEPA guidelines

[Nick Sobczyk](#), E&E News reporter

Published: Monday, May 7, 2018



A sign blocks motorists from entering a construction zone in North Dakota. North Dakota/Flickr

The Trump administration has signaled its intent to update the baseline National Environmental Policy Act guidelines for the whole federal government.

The White House Council on Environmental Quality has submitted a [draft advanced notice of proposed rulemaking](#), dated Thursday, with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, indicating that it will update "the regulations for implementing the procedural provisions" of NEPA.

The draft will be published in the *Federal Register* as an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking in the coming weeks after an interagency review, a CEQ spokesman told E&E News. That will trigger a public comment period before CEQ submits a more detailed proposal for what, exactly, it wants to change.

If it eventually goes through, the new guidelines could mark a major change for how agencies across the government handle permitting.

Other agencies have their own NEPA regulations, and some, such as the Department of the Interior, have already undergone changes during the Trump administration.

Advertisement

But CEQ guides implementation of the landmark law, and its regulations set minimum standards. Environmental groups fear the Trump administration could seek to take out NEPA's teeth.

"As much as we talk about NEPA, the statute itself is very short, very concise," said Raul Garcia, legislative counsel with Earthjustice. "What gives it a lot of its teeth and value are the regulations that CEQ put in place in order to implement the statute."

The draft has few details, so it's unclear as of yet exactly how CEQ will proceed. The spokesman said the rule was developed in accordance with President Trump's Aug. 15, 2017, executive order, which sought to limit NEPA reviews to two years.

"While CEQ has issued memoranda and guidance documents over the years, it has only amended its regulations once," the spokesman said. "Therefore, CEQ believes it is appropriate at this time to solicit public comment and consider updating the implementation regulations."

One potential roadblock is that CEQ still does not have a permanent director. Trump's pick for that position, Kathleen Hartnett White, withdrew her name from consideration after it became clear she would not pass the Senate. CEQ's chief of staff, Mary Neumayr, has been handling that role on an interim basis.

Still, the draft comes as no surprise. Environmentalists and other agency watchers have for months been expecting CEQ to update its NEPA guidelines, and the White House outlined its intent to do so in its infrastructure plan, released in February ([Greenwire](#), Feb. 12).

The rewrite could aim to expand categorical exclusions or set shorter time limits on permitting litigation, both of which were outlined in the infrastructure plan.

The plan notes that CEQ's regulations have not been updated since 1978 and says the "environmental review process under NEPA as it exists today is lengthy, inefficient and costly."

The potential rewrite also follows several moves aimed at streamlining environmental permitting, including an interagency agreement signed last month ([Greenwire](#), April 9).

Energy industry groups have generally praised the Trump administration for its moves to speed up permitting, saying that it gives companies more certainty as they move ahead with big, expensive infrastructure projects.

But environmentalists are already sounding the alarm about what they see as one of the biggest attempts yet to weaken environmental requirements.

"This could be a really big problem for anybody that cares about communities having a voice in the process, for anybody that cares about smart decisionmaking," Garcia said.

Michael A. Patella
Senior Advisor on Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
Tel: (b) (6)
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Date: Tue, 08 May 2018 13:14:27 -0400

Greg,

Thank you for such a timely and well-developed response. I am particularly interested in the designation of a standing advisory committee to provide:

- Advice on public participation in science-based decision making
- Approaches for effective science communication with decision makers
- Structured engagement with academics, decision makers, and other stakeholders throughout the NEPA update process
- Expert reviews of draft regulations or other documents authored by CEQ

I will queue this up for discussion with CEQ leadership and get back to you soon on our inclinations.

Best,
Ted

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<DJones@nas.edu>

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Ted:

It was great to talk with you on Friday afternoon. Attached as promised is a brief discussion paper describing some of the options for how the Academies could be of assistance to CEQ and the agencies during the process of updating NEPA regulations.

Please let us know what you think. We would be happy to provide additional details about any of the options and/or continue our conversations if it would be helpful.

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To: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6); "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6)
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Attachments: NEPA Reform NASEM Involvement 05-07-2018.docx (17.86 kB)

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Possible Roles for the National Academies in Supporting Updates to NEPA Regulations

DRAFT
May 7, 2018

Context: The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is in the process of issuing an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) indicating their intent to update the regulations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Act requires that federal agencies conduct environmental assessments of major projects that involve federal funding and has subsequently been interpreted to apply to private projects that require federal permits. CEQ develops regulations for how the NEPA requirements are to be met, and then individual agencies develop policies in accordance with the regulations. These regulations have not undergone a comprehensive update in 40 years.

A major driver for updating the NEPA regulations is the desire to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness of the federal government in preparing Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), which typically take several years to complete. This time is used to conduct studies and analysis and to enable relevant levels of government and the public to participate in the process. Recently, Executive Order 13807 set forth the goal of completing all federal environmental reviews and authorization decisions for major infrastructure projects within 2 years. The proposed rulemaking would seek to meet the intent of the law in a more streamlined fashion while maintaining appropriate use of environmental studies and analysis; enhancing coordination among federal, state, tribal, and local agencies; and supporting transparency and engagement with the public.

Potential areas for NASEM engagement: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) could provide assistance to CEQ in updating the NEPA regulations. Areas where NASEM input could be particularly useful include:

- Technical input on the appropriate use of studies, models, and other analytical tools
- Advice on risk-based frameworks to ensure that environmental assessments are focusing on the greatest risks
- Review of existing NEPA practices across agencies to identify best practices and opportunities for coordination
- Focused input on specific aspects of environmental assessment that are particularly challenging (e.g., cumulative effects, determining appropriate thresholds for what is considered an environmental impact, addressing climate impacts)
- Recommendations for specific sorts of analytical resources that could support NEPA analyses across many agencies (e.g., assessments of specific crosscutting issues)
- Advice on public participation in science-based decision making
- Approaches for effective science communication with decision makers
- Structured engagement with academics, decision makers, and other stakeholders throughout the NEPA update process
- Expert reviews of draft regulations or other documents authored by CEQ

Potential approaches: Mechanisms that could be used to provide advice/input and facilitate discussions among key stakeholders include:

1. Standing Advisory Committee that Issues Short Reports

NASEM would appoint a committee to provide ongoing advice to CEQ throughout the regulatory update process.

The committee could:

- Meet regularly with CEQ and relevant agency staff to gain an understanding of their approach to the revision process and any challenges they are facing. Meetings would be structured to provide an opportunity for committee members to discuss issues with government officials.
- As needed/requested by CEQ [and/or relevant agency staff], prepare short reports that would provide formal, consensus advice on specific topics.
- Conduct fast-track written reviews of draft regulations/documents produced by CEQ. Because the committee will already have developed familiarity with the process and the issues, these reviews could be completed in 2-3 months.
- Hold workshops to engage experts or the broader stakeholder community in providing input/comment on the process. Summaries of the workshop discussions could be produced.

2. Separate Committee(s) Charged to Address Specific Tasks

If the input desired from the NASEM is more limited in scope, another alternative would be for NASEM to appoint a committee or committees with narrower scopes, i.e., to address just one of the bullets listed above for the Advisory Committee (option 1).

For example, a committee could be appointed to review a document. Note that such a review would likely take longer than if conducted by the Advisory Committee (option 1). This is because the group will be assembled just for this task and won't have the benefit of prior discussions to develop rapport and deeper understanding of the topic.

3. Roundtable to Facilitate Ongoing Coordination, Discussion, and Engagement with Stakeholders

NASEM could establish a "roundtable"—comprised of representatives from multiple sectors—that meets in a neutral setting on a continuing basis to discuss topics of mutual interest and concern. The membership of a roundtable is usually 20 to 30 individuals and consists of sponsor representatives and other key stakeholders. In this case, this mechanism would allow for continued engagement of relevant agency representatives with other interested parties (such as state, local, and tribal representatives; private industry; non-governmental organizations), and experts to facilitate perspective sharing, coordination, and problem solving. While roundtables do not provide advice, their discussions often surface issues that can be addressed through other activities, such as workshops or consensus studies.

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Greg, I apologize for the belated follow up. Easy to get sidetracked here. I wanted to let you know that I will be returning to my home agency, DOT, but Ted will continue to pursue the issues that we've discussed and will be reaching out to you (although I believe in the near term he is traveling). I'm also copying Marlys Osterhues, on detail to CEQ from DOT, who will also be engaged in this effort.

I really appreciated the good discussions and information that you and your folks provided, and hope we can make some progress on resolving these difficult issues.

Thanks again—
April

From: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2018 3:57 PM
To: Marchese, April L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <ASTaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Dear April and Ted-

Amanda, Laura, Laurie, and I really enjoyed our conversation with you yesterday.

I hope our wide-ranging discussion was of some use as you continue to develop near-term guidance and consider potential longer-term efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of environmental reviews.

We would be happy to continue the conversation on any of the topics after you've had a chance to reflect on our discussions and confer with your colleagues. My sense is that some of the more promising areas where the Academies could be of assistance include the idea of having carrying out technical peer reviews of key documents, convening workshops to bring together experts and other stakeholders to provide input or feedback on your plans, and carrying out consensus studies that would provide advice on particularly challenging issues such as improving methods for evaluating cumulative effects and/or characterizing and communicating uncertainties to decision makers and the public.

I'm copying my colleagues so you can reach out to any of us individually or as a group if you want to follow up on specific issues that arose during yesterday's meeting.

Best,

Greg

Gregory H. Symmes, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Division on Earth and Life Studies
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-334-2500

gsymmes@nas.edu

Possible Roles for the National Academies in Supporting Updates to NEPA Regulations

DRAFT
May 7, 2018

Context: The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is in the process of issuing an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) indicating their intent to update the regulations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Act requires that federal agencies conduct environmental assessments of major projects that involve federal funding and has subsequently been interpreted to apply to private projects that require federal permits. CEQ develops regulations for how the NEPA requirements are to be met, and then individual agencies develop policies in accordance with the regulations. These regulations have not undergone a comprehensive update in 40 years.

A major driver for updating the NEPA regulations is the desire to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness of the federal government in preparing Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), which typically take several years to complete. This time is used to conduct studies and analysis and to enable relevant levels of government and the public to participate in the process. Recently, Executive Order 13807 set forth the goal of completing all federal environmental reviews and authorization decisions for major infrastructure projects within 2 years. The proposed rulemaking would seek to meet the intent of the law in a more streamlined fashion while maintaining appropriate use of environmental studies and analysis; enhancing coordination among federal, state, tribal, and local agencies; and supporting transparency and engagement with the public.

Potential areas for NASEM engagement: The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) could provide assistance to CEQ in updating the NEPA regulations. Areas where NASEM input could be particularly useful include:

- Technical input on the appropriate use of studies, models, and other analytical tools
- Advice on risk-based frameworks to ensure that environmental assessments are focusing on the greatest risks
- Review of existing NEPA practices across agencies to identify best practices and opportunities for coordination
- Focused input on specific aspects of environmental assessment that are particularly challenging (e.g., cumulative effects, determining appropriate thresholds for what is considered an environmental impact, addressing climate impacts)
- Recommendations for specific sorts of analytical resources that could support NEPA analyses across many agencies (e.g., assessments of specific crosscutting issues)
- Advice on public participation in science-based decision making
- Approaches for effective science communication with decision makers
- Structured engagement with academics, decision makers, and other stakeholders throughout the NEPA update process
- Expert reviews of draft regulations or other documents authored by CEQ

Potential approaches: Mechanisms that could be used to provide advice/input and facilitate discussions among key stakeholders include:

1. Standing Advisory Committee that Issues Short Reports

NASEM would appoint a committee to provide ongoing advice to CEQ throughout the regulatory update process.

The committee could:

- Meet regularly with CEQ and relevant agency staff to gain an understanding of their approach to the revision process and any challenges they are facing. Meetings would be structured to provide an opportunity for committee members to discuss issues with government officials.
- As needed/requested by CEQ [and/or relevant agency staff], prepare short reports that would provide formal, consensus advice on specific topics.
- Conduct fast-track written reviews of draft regulations/documents produced by CEQ. Because the committee will already have developed familiarity with the process and the issues, these reviews could be completed in 2-3 months.
- Hold workshops to engage experts or the broader stakeholder community in providing input/comment on the process. Summaries of the workshop discussions could be produced.

2. Separate Committee(s) Charged to Address Specific Tasks

If the input desired from the NASEM is more limited in scope, another alternative would be for NASEM to appoint a committee or committees with narrower scopes, i.e., to address just one of the bullets listed above for the Advisory Committee (option 1).

For example, a committee could be appointed to review a document. Note that such a review would likely take longer than if conducted by the Advisory Committee (option 1). This is because the group will be assembled just for this task and won't have the benefit of prior discussions to develop rapport and deeper understanding of the topic.

3. Roundtable to Facilitate Ongoing Coordination, Discussion, and Engagement with Stakeholders

NASEM could establish a "roundtable"—comprised of representatives from multiple sectors—that meets in a neutral setting on a continuing basis to discuss topics of mutual interest and concern. The membership of a roundtable is usually 20 to 30 individuals and consists of sponsor representatives and other key stakeholders. In this case, this mechanism would allow for continued engagement of relevant agency representatives with other interested parties (such as state, local, and tribal representatives; private industry; non-governmental organizations), and experts to facilitate perspective sharing, coordination, and problem solving. While roundtables do not provide advice, their discussions often surface issues that can be addressed through other activities, such as workshops or consensus studies.

Re: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

From: "Gentile, Laura" <gentile.laura@epa.gov>
To: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Knight, Kelly" <knight.kelly@epa.gov>, "Landers, Timothy" <landers.timothy@epa.gov>
Date: Thu, 17 May 2018 09:56:59 -0400

Thanks a lot for the update, Steven

Laura Gentile
U.S. EPA
Desk 202.564.3158
Cell (b) (6)

On May 17, 2018, at 9:48 AM, Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> wrote:

Laura, Kelly, and Timothy:

Following up on our conversation on Tuesday, I spoke with our team and we reached out to OIRA to figure out what happened. Not sure where in the chain the ball was dropped, but, just a heads up in case you haven't heard, OIRA circulated the ANPRM to EPA and has—to my understanding—extended the deadline for comment to COB on Monday.

Best,
Steven

CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

From: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=2e9fa21939394821b946485a90c4cb4e-ba">

To: gentile.laura@epa.gov, knight.kelly@epa.gov, landers.timothy@epa.gov

Date: Thu, 17 May 2018 09:48:31 -0400

Laura, Kelly, and Timothy:

Following up on our conversation on Tuesday, I spoke with our team and we reached out to OIRA to figure out what happened. Not sure where in the chain the ball was dropped, but, just a heads up in case you haven't heard, OIRA circulated the ANPRM to EPA and has—to my understanding—extended the deadline for comment to COB on Monday.

Best,
Steven

[EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

To: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Fri, 18 May 2018 13:19:00 -0400

Thanks, Dan.

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 12:49 PM

To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick, still checking in on this.

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 10:06 AM

To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Dan – any word yet on whether you'll be able to connect me with Mr. Boling?

Nick

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 11:58 AM

To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick,

What's your timing on this?

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 11:43 AM

To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

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Would you be able to set up an interview with Ted Boling? Would be great to get some of his thoughts on the issue and have his voice in the story.

Best,
Nick

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 3:16 PM
To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick,

On background, attributable to a CEQ Spokesman:

On May 3rd, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) submitted a draft Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) entitled "Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" to the Office of Management and Budget for interagency review consistent with Executive Order 12866. After completion of interagency review, CEQ anticipates will publish the ANPRM in the Federal Register for public comment.

This ANPRM is being developed in response to Executive Order 13807 issued by President Trump on August 15, 2017. While CEQ has issued memoranda and guidance documents over the years, it has only amended its regulations once. Therefore, CEQ believes it is appropriate at this time to solicit public comment and consider updating the implementation regulations.

Hope that helps,

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 2:27 PM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment from CEQ?

Hi Dan,

Hope all is well and that you're enjoying your new gig at the White House! I saw CEQ submitted a prerule with OMB on May 3 to update its NEPA regulations. I'm looking for a comment from CEQ on the following questions. My deadline is 3:15 pm.

Does CEQ plan to follow this up with an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking? Or are there other options available?

What are the next steps and what is the timeline looking like?

What specific changes will CEQ make to its NEPA regs? How will they affect permitting processes at other agencies?

Thanks!

Nick Sobczyk
E&E News reporter
nsobczyk@eenews.net
Office: 202-446-0437
Cell: (b) (6)
[@nick_sobczyk](https://twitter.com/nick_sobczyk)

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

[EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

To: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Mon, 21 May 2018 10:38:43 -0400

Hey Dan – any update on this? If you'd like to provide a statement from CEQ, I could work with that, too. I'm wondering:

How long will the process take?

Are there any specific areas of the NEPA regulations that are ripe for reform?

Do you think the FAST Act and MAP-21 provide a model for streamlining/change?

How will the current lack of Senate-confirmed political leadership affect how CEQ handles the potential regulatory changes?

How many public comments is CEQ expecting to get?

Best,
Nick

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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

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From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=70576341fcb44ab780c5f4d1ca218647-sc">
To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Date: Mon, 21 May 2018 10:45:49 -0400

What's the best number to reach you at? Would like to discuss. Thanks.

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 10:39 AM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

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From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]
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Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

RE: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

From: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=2e9fa21939394821b946485a90c4cb4e-ba">
To: "Gentile, Laura" <gentile.laura@epa.gov>
Date: Wed, 23 May 2018 17:58:22 -0400

Laura,

Yes let's touch base tomorrow. I'll call your cell around 10 if that works for you. For future reference, my cell is (b) (6)

Best,
Steven

From: Gentile, Laura <Gentile.Laura@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 4:36 PM
To: Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: Re: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

Hey Steven,
Please let me know if you have a few minutes to touch base by phone tomorrow regarding the OFD initial plan.

I'm here until 5 today. Will have my phone if you would like to chat this afternoon.

Please feel free to either contact me on my cell or let me know where I can reach you. Am in the process of moving offices (desk phone not set up yet).

Thanks!

Laura

Laura Gentile
U.S. EPA
Cell (b) (6)

On May 17, 2018, at 9:48 AM, Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> wrote:

Laura, Kelly, and Timothy:

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Re: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

From: "Gentile, Laura" <gentile.laura@epa.gov>

To: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Wed, 23 May 2018 16:35:41 -0400

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U.S. EPA

Cell (b) (6)

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RE: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

From: "Gentile, Laura" <gentile.laura@epa.gov>

To: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Wed, 23 May 2018 18:00:13 -0400

Sounds good, Steven. If we can talk at 10, that would be great. I have a 10:15 meeting.

Thanks,

Laura

Laura Gentile

Office of Policy

U.S. EPA

Desk 202-564-3158

From: Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 5:58 PM

To: Gentile, Laura <Gentile.Laura@epa.gov>

Subject: [SPAM-Sender] RE: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

Laura,

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Best,

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To: "Gentile, Laura" <gentile.laura@epa.gov>

Date: Wed, 23 May 2018 18:00:54 -0400

Perfect. Talk to you then.

From: Gentile, Laura <Gentile.Laura@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 6:00 PM

To: Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: RE: CEQ's ANPRM on NEPA

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Steven

CEQ ANPRM: AGENCY COMMENTS DRAFT

From: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=4d160e7136e6433da5b8709794e963f5-sh">

To: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Cc: "Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Thu, 24 May 2018 17:42:10 -0400

Attachment s: EO12866 Review CEQ NEPA ANPRM WITH AGENCY COMMENTS 5-24-18.docx (47.55 kB)

All,

Attached is the redline draft with all textual changes resulting from agency comments. Please review and flag any concerns by 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Thank you,

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

CEQ ANPRM: AGENCY COMMENTS DRAFT

From: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: <(b) (6)> "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 24 May 2018 17:42:10 -0400
Attachments: EO12866 Review CEQ NEPA ANPRM WITH AGENCY COMMENTS 5-24-18.docx (47.55 kB)

All,

Attached is the redline draft with all textual changes resulting from agency comments. Please review and flag any concerns by 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Thank you,

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Canceled: HOLD: Interagency Phone Call on CEQ NEPA ANPRM

Where: 734 JP 2nd Floor

When: Wed May 30 15:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Wed May 30 16:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Organiser: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=f93a8d1dd2b4420ca81e53ff8199b780-sz">

Required Attendees :

- "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Herrgott, Alex H. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Participant Dial-In: (b) (6) Participant Code: (b) (6)

HOLD: Interagency Phone Call on CEQ NEPA ANPRM

Where: 734 JP 2nd Floor

When: Wed May 30 15:00:00 2018 (America/New York)

Until: Wed May 30 16:00:00 2018 (America/New York)

Organiser: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <"/o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=f93a8d1dd2b4420ca81e53ff8199b780-sz">

- Required Attendees :
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 - "Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Herrgott, Alex H. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 - "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Participant Dial-In: (b) (6) Participant Code: (b) (6)

Can you print for the 2pm for Mary?

From: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 11 Jun 2018 13:52:46 -0400
Attachments: EO12866 Review CEQ NEPA ANPRM_Revised_RLSO_Final.docx (47.58 kB)

Aaron L. Szabo
Senior Counsel
Council on Environmental Quality

(b) (6) (Desk)

(b) (6) (Cell)

(b) (6)

RE: Draft ANPRM Fact Sheet

From: "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 11 Jun 2018 12:30:20 -0400
Attachments: Draft ANPRM Fact Sheet 6-11-18 TLP edits.docx (19.41 kB)

I just (b) (5) . Thanks!

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ
Sent: Monday, June 11, 2018 11:47 AM
To: Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: Draft ANPRM Fact Sheet

Please see attached for your review, edits, and suggestions.

Thanks!

Dan

Dan Schneider
Associate Director for Communications
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6) (desk)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Draft ANPRM Fact Sheet

From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 11 Jun 2018 11:47:29 -0400
Attachments: Draft ANPRM Fact Sheet 6-11-18.docx (17.53 kB)

Please see attached for your review, edits, and suggestions.

Thanks!

Dan

Dan Schneider
Associate Director for Communications
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6) (desk)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Version 6.11.18

Council on Environmental Quality Requests Public Comment on Potential Revisions to Update the National Environment Policy Act

On **June XX**, 2018, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) submitted an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking entitled, “Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act” to the *Federal Register* for public comment.

Why: Over the past four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has amended its regulations only once. Given the length of time since its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations were issued, CEQ has determined it appropriate to solicit public comment on potential revisions to update the regulations and ensure a more efficient, timely, and effective NEPA process consistent with the national environmental policy stated in NEPA.

Request for Public Comment: CEQ requests comments on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ NEPA regulations. Comments should be submitted on or before 30 days after the date of publication in the *Federal Register*. Through a series of 20 questions, CEQ is requesting comments on the NEPA process, the scope of NEPA review, and ways to improve and make the NEPA process more efficient.

Background: On August 15, 2017, President Trump issued [Executive Order 13807](#) which directed CEQ to develop an initial list of actions it would take to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review and authorization process. CEQ’s [initial list of actions](#) was published in the *Federal Register* on September 14, 2017 and stated CEQ intended to review existing CEQ regulations implementing the procedural requirements of NEPA.

In May 2018, CEQ [submitted the draft ANPRM](#) to the Office of Management and Budget for interagency review consistent with Executive Order 12866. Following the interagency review, CEQ believes it is appropriate to now solicit public comment.

Next Steps: Following the conclusion of the public comment period, CEQ will review the comments before taking any potential further action.

CEQ ANPRM

From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=70576341fcb44ab780c5f4d1ca218647-sc">
To: "Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Ditto, Jessica E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 14 Jun 2018 17:15:15 -0400
Attachments: Draft FINAL ANPRM Fact Sheet 6-15-18.docx (19.82 kB)

FYI - Tomorrow, we're planning on posting the attached fact sheet on our NEPA Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to the CEQ page of the website. In this ANPRM, we're proposing a series of 20 questions for public comment on the NEPA process and the scope of NEPA review in an effort to solicit feedback on any potential future revisions to NEPA. Over the last four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has only substantially amended its regulations once. This ANPRM is part of our list of actions under E.O. 13807 to modernize the federal environmental review and authorization process (b) (5)

Let me know if you have any questions.

Dan

Dan Schneider
Associate Director for Communications
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6) (desk)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Version 6.15.18

Council on Environmental Quality Requests Public Comment on Potential Revisions to Update National Environment Policy Act Regulations

On **June XX**, 2018, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) submitted an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) titled “Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act” to the *Federal Register* for publication and public comment.

Background:

- On August 15, 2017, President Trump issued [Executive Order 13807](#) which directed CEQ to develop an initial list of actions it would take to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review and authorization process.
- In its [initial list of actions](#) published in the *Federal Register* on September 14, 2017, CEQ stated that it intended to review its 1978 regulations implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in order to identify potential updates and clarifications to those regulations.
- Over the past four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has amended its NEPA regulations substantively only once in 1986. Given the length of time since those regulations were issued, CEQ has determined it appropriate to solicit public comment on potential revisions to update the regulations.

Request for Public Comment:

- CEQ requests comment on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ’s NEPA regulations. Comments should be submitted on or before 30 days after the date of publication in the *Federal Register*. To comment, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments to Docket ID No. CEQ-2018-0001.
- Through a series of 20 questions, CEQ is requesting comments on provisions of the regulations related to the NEPA process and the scope of NEPA review.

Next Steps:

- Following the conclusion of the public comment period, CEQ will review the comments before taking any potential further action.

Fwd: CEQ ANPRM

From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 14 Jun 2018 17:24:41 -0400
Attachments: Draft FINAL ANPRM Fact Sheet 6-15-18.docx (19.82 kB)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: June 14, 2018 at 5:15:15 PM EDT
To: "Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Ditto, Jessica E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>
Subject: CEQ ANPRM

FYI - Tomorrow, we're planning on posting the attached fact sheet on our NEPA Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to the CEQ page of the website. In this ANPRM, we're proposing a series of 20 questions for public comment on the NEPA process and the scope of NEPA review in an effort to solicit feedback on any potential future revisions to NEPA. Over the last four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has only substantially amended its regulations once. This ANPRM is part of our list of actions under E.O. 13807 to modernize the federal environmental review and authorization process. (b) (5)

Let me know if you have any questions.

Dan

Dan Schneider
Associate Director for Communications
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6) (desk)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Version 6.15.18

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Next Steps:

- Following the conclusion of the public comment period, CEQ will review the comments before taking any potential further action.

RE: CEQ ANPRM

From: "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=579eb754b4c34f0e8e46d1fb4cd708d7-pe">

To: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Thu, 14 Jun 2018 18:29:42 -0400

Thank you!

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 5:25 PM

To: Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: Fwd: CEQ ANPRM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: June 14, 2018 at 5:15:15 PM EDT

To: "Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>

Cc: "Ditto, Jessica E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>

Subject: CEQ ANPRM

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Let me know if you have any questions.

Dan

Dan Schneider

Associate Director for Communications

Council on Environmental Quality

Executive Office of the President

(b) (6) (desk)

(b) (6)

www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

WH Look Ahead: June 18

From: Policy Coordinator <(b) (6)>

"Schlapp, Mercedes V. EOP/WHO" (b) (6),
"Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>, "Bremberg,
Andrew P. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "DeStefano, John J.
EOP/WHO" (b) (6), (b) (6), "Ditto, Jessica E.
EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>, "Leggitt, Lance B. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)>, "Kratsios, Michael J. EOP/OSTP"
<(b) (6)>, "Donaldson, Annie M. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Fuentes, Zach D. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Eissenstat, Everett H. EOP/WHO"
To: <(b) (6)>, "Kushner, Jared C. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Liddell, Christopher P. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Stepien, William EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Clark, Justin R. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Short, Marc T. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "McGinley, William J. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Conway, Kellyanne E. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, "Carroll, James W. EOP/ONDCP"
<(b) (6)>, "Navarro, Peter K. EOP/WHO"
<(b) (6)>, Staff Secretary <(b) (6)>

Cc: Policy Coordinator <(b) (6)>

Date: Sun, 17 Jun 2018 22:16:24 -0400

Attachments: 30 Day Event Outlook 6.15.18 ap v1.pdf (529.97 kB); 30 Day Policy Outlook 6.15.18 ap v1.pdf (545.41 kB); Policy Outlook June 18.docx (51.93 kB)

Attached please find the latest two-week look ahead, as well as the 30-day agency reports from Cabinet Affairs. (b) (5)

All components should update the look ahead weekly, on Thursday evening.

ANPR information...

From "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" <"o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=579eb754b4c34f0e8e46d1fb4cd708d7-pe">

To: "Esparza, Chris" <chris.esparza@mail.house.gov>

Date: Mon, 18 Jun 2018 16:24:47 -0400

Hello,

I wanted to follow up on this. Here is some info below. The 30 day comment period will start after this appears in the FR. Thank you.

Prepublication Text: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CEQ-NEPA-ANPRM_WebVersion-20180615.pdf

Fact Sheet: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FINAL-ANPRM-Fact-Sheet-20180615.pdf>

CEQ Webpage Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/initiatives/>

FW: Draft CEQ Spring 2018 Unified Agenda

From: "Gribbin, DJ J. EOP/WHO" (b) (6)
To: "Patella, Michael A. EOP/CEO" (b) (6); "Hobbie, David S. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6); "Robyn Colosimo (robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil)" (b) (6) <robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil>
Date: Mon, 26 Mar 2018 11:07:48 -0400
Attachments: CEQ 2018 Spring Agenda Entries - 3_23_2018.docx (19.59 kB)

(b) (5)

From: Dorjets, Vlad EOP/OMB
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 6:12 PM
To: McGinley, Mike H. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Moran, John S. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Wold, Theo J. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Jain, Varun M. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Wackler, Ted M. EOP/OSTP (b) (6); Bremberg, Andrew P. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Salvi, Mary E. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Catanzaro, Michael J. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Fitzgerald, Timothy W. EOP/CEA (b) (6); Hickey, Mike J. EOP/OMB (b) (6); Gribbin, DJ J. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Brooke, Francis J. EOP/OVP (b) (6); Connolly, David C. EOP/OMB (b) (6)
Subject: Draft CEQ Spring 2018 Unified Agenda

Colleagues,

As you probably know by now, OIRA is reviewing agency draft submissions for the Spring 2018 Unified Agenda. In addition to cabinet departments and independent agencies, certain EOP offices and councils publish agenda too. I have thus attached CEQ's draft agenda consisting of two entries: an ANPRM related to revisions to its NEPA regulations and an NPRM related to revisions to its internal FOIA and Privacy Act regulations. I am circulating this agenda within the EOP just like any other Agency agenda in case there are comments. We request your comments on the draft Unified Agenda by **COB, Tuesday March 27th**.

All of these materials are pre-decisional and deliberative drafts and should not be forwarded or shared. Please let me know if there are others in your office or in EOP who may wish to participate in this review.

Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you for your effort.

Vlad

Vlad Dorjets
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
White House Office of Management and Budget

(202) 395-7315 | (b) (6)

RE: Draft CEQ Spring 2018 Unified Agenda

From: "Patella, Michael A. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=8e0d7ae5c8e44276903a9c5c51eb67d7-pa">
To: "Gribbin, DJ J. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)> "Hobbie, David S. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Robyn Colosimo (robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil)" <robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil>
Date: Mon, 26 Mar 2018 13:16:09 -0400

I have been unable to find any additional agenda items specific to CEQ.

Michael

From: Gribbin, DJ J. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Patella, Michael A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Hobbie, David S. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Robyn Colosimo (robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil) <robyn.s.colosimo.civ@mail.mil>
Subject: FW: Draft CEQ Spring 2018 Unified Agenda

(b) (5)

From: Dorjets, Vlad EOP/OMB
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 6:12 PM
To: McGinley, Mike H. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Moran, John S. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Wold, Theo J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Jain, Varun M. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)> Wackler, Ted M. EOP/OSTP <(b) (6)> Bremberg, Andrew P. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Salvi, Mary E. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Catanzaro, Michael J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Fitzgerald, Timothy W. EOP/CEA <(b) (6)> Hickey, Mike J. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)> Gribbin, DJ J. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)> Brooke, Francis J. EOP/OVP <(b) (6)> Connolly, David C. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)>
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Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you for your effort.

Vlad

Vlad Dorjets
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
White House Office of Management and Budget
(202) 395-7315 | (b) (6)

[EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

To: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Tue, 19 Jun 2018 11:17:48 -0400

Hey Dan – one additional question for you. An early criticism I'm hearing from environmentalists is that 30 days is an exceedingly short comment period. Do you have a response to that? What was the rationale for that time frame?

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 10:32 AM

To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick, what's your deadline?

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 9:52 AM

To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

Good Morning Dan,

We're going to run a story on this in today's Greenwire, so I wanted to see if CEQ has any additional comment.

Is the series of 20 questions a typical format for an ANPRM? If not, what is the rationale?

Was CEQ waiting to advance this document until it got a nominee for director?

Does Ms. Neumayr's official nomination make things easier, or will it effectively be the same?

I suspect this will be a popular document. How many comments do you think you'll get?

Best,

Nick

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Monday, June 18, 2018 3:55 PM

To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>

Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick,

Just wanted to flag this for you given your interest in the subject matter. CEQ submitted an ANPRM to the Federal Register for publication on Friday, June 15, 2018 requesting public comment on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ's NEPA regulations. Through a series of 20 questions, CEQ is requesting comments on provisions of the regulations to the NEPA process and the scope of NEPA review. It should be published in the Federal Register in the next couple of days.

Fact Sheet: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FINAL-ANPRM-Fact-Sheet-20180615.pdf>

Prepublication Text: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CEQ-NEPA-ANPRM_WebVersion-20180615.pdf

Webpage: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/initiatives/>

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 10:46 AM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

Sure: 202-446-0437

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [[\(b\) \(6\)](mailto:(b) (6))]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 10:46 AM
To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

What's the best number to reach you at? Would like to discuss. Thanks.

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 10:39 AM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Dan – any update on this? If you'd like to provide a statement from CEQ, I could work with that, too. I'm wondering:

How long will the process take?

Are there any specific areas of the NEPA regulations that are ripe for reform?

Do you think the FAST Act and MAP-21 provide a model for streamlining/change?

How will the current lack of Senate-confirmed political leadership affect how CEQ handles the potential regulatory changes?

How many public comments is CEQ expecting to get?

Best,
Nick

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 12:49 PM
To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick, still checking in on this.

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 10:06 AM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Dan – any word yet on whether you’ll be able to connect me with Mr. Boling?

Nick

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 11:58 AM
To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick,

What’s your timing on this?

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 11:43 AM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Dan,

I’m hoping to do a follow up to the below examining in more detail what the process will look like and what areas of CEQ’s NEPA regulations would be ripe for change.

Would you be able to set up an interview with Ted Boling? Would be great to get some of his thoughts on the issue and have his voice in the story.

Best,
Nick

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 3:16 PM
To: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Subject: RE: Comment from CEQ?

Hey Nick,

On background, attributable to a CEQ Spokesman:

On May 3rd, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) submitted a draft Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) entitled "Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" to the Office of Management and Budget for interagency review consistent with Executive Order 12866. After completion of interagency review, CEQ anticipates will publish the ANPRM in the Federal Register for public comment.

This ANPRM is being developed in response to Executive Order 13807 issued by President Trump on August 15, 2017. While CEQ has issued memoranda and guidance documents over the years, it has only amended its regulations once. Therefore, CEQ believes it is appropriate at this time to solicit public comment and consider updating the implementation regulations.

Hope that helps,

Dan

From: Nick Sobczyk <nsobczyk@eenews.net>
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 2:27 PM
To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment from CEQ?

Hi Dan,

Hope all is well and that you're enjoying your new gig at the White House! I saw CEQ submitted a prerule with OMB on May 3 to update its NEPA regulations. I'm looking for a comment from CEQ on the following questions. My deadline is 3:15 pm.

Does CEQ plan to follow this up with an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking? Or are there other options available?

What are the next steps and what is the timeline looking like?

What specific changes will CEQ make to its NEPA regs? How will they affect permitting processes at other agencies?

Thanks!

Nick Sobczyk
E&E News reporter
nsobczyk@eenews.net
Office: 202-446-0437
Cell: (b) (6)
[@nick_sobczyk](https://twitter.com/nick_sobczyk)

E&E NEWS

122 C Street NW 7th Floor Washington, DC 20001
>>>>>>www.eenews.net<<<<<<< | [@EENewsUpdates](https://twitter.com/EENewsUpdates)
Energywire, Climatewire, Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM

RE: CEQ ANPRM

From: "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=70576341fcb44ab780c5f4d1ca218647-sc">

To: Chris Knight <chris.knight@argusmedia.com>

Date: Tue, 19 Jun 2018 10:52:33 -0400

Yes, let's do coffee at some point.

Following conclusion of the public comment period, we plan on reviewing the comments before taking any further action.

From: Chris Knight <chris.knight@argusmedia.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 10:06 AM

To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: CEQ ANPRM

Hey, thanks for the heads up, and congrats on the move. The final pre-summer push is super busy right now but we should grab coffee when things slow down.

One question: Is there any timeline right now for a proposed rulemaking on the NEPA revisions, and then a final one?

From: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 10:00 AM

To: Chris Knight <chris.knight@argusmedia.com>

Subject: CEQ ANPRM

Notice: external email – please use caution.

Hey Chris,

Saw your tweet regarding the ANPRM we put out. Just wanted to send over this fact sheet for you as well so you had it.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FINAL-ANPRM-Fact-Sheet-20180615.pdf>

Also, I used to be at Energy and Commerce but moved over here to CEQ in April. My new contact information is below.

Best,

Dan

Dan Schneider
Associate Director for Communications

Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

(b) (6) (desk)

(b) (6)

www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

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Argus Media Limited has moved offices. Please note our new address below.

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RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

From: "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=eae5b047f871428b9b46baf8afd1176a-bo">
To: "Symmes, Gregory" <gsymmes@nas.edu>
Cc: "Staudt, Amanda" <astaudt@nas.edu>, "DeFeo, Laura" <ldefeo@nas.edu>, "Geller, Laurie" <lgeller@nas.edu>, "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=b7e9898c6a8e463cb2a7da10b55ed6af-os">, "Jones, Dawn" <djones@nas.edu>, "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=a0bc62c0a5454e6fb7a1be504b7d284a-dr">, "Mansoor, Yarden M. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Wed, 20 Jun 2018 17:14:41 -0400

Greg, et al.,

As expected during our meeting, the Council on Environmental Quality has published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) titled "Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" (<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=CEQ-2018-0001-0001>). As a respected member of the NEPA community, I would like to ensure that you and your colleagues at the Academies are engaged early in the process as CEQ begins this significant undertaking. The ANPRM asks a series of 20 questions on the NEPA process, the scope of NEPA review, and other areas of interest related to NEPA. CEQ requests comment on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ's NEPA regulations. Comments should be submitted on or before July 20, 2018, and should be submitted through <https://www.regulations.gov> by following the online instructions for submitting comments to Docket ID No. CEQ-2018-0001.

If I find an opportunity for a the Academies to provide greater assistance to CEQ as this review progresses. I would appreciate any and all comments in that regard.

Sincerely,
Ted

Edward A. Boling
Associate Director for the
National Environmental Policy Act
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

From: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ
Sent: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 1:14 PM
To: 'Symmes, Gregory' <GSymmes@nas.edu>

Cc: Staudt, Amanda <AStaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Jones, Dawn <DJones@nas.edu>; Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Greg,

Thank you for such a timely and well-developed response. I am particularly interested in the designation of a standing advisory committee to provide:

- Advice on public participation in science-based decision making
- Approaches for effective science communication with decision makers
- Structured engagement with academics, decision makers, and other stakeholders throughout the NEPA update process
- Expert reviews of draft regulations or other documents authored by CEQ

I will queue this up for discussion with CEQ leadership and get back to you soon on our inclinations.

Best,
Ted

Edward A. Boling
Associate Director for the
National Environmental Policy Act
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

From: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 11:58 AM
To: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <AStaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Jones, Dawn <DJones@nas.edu>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Ted:

It was great to talk with you on Friday afternoon. Attached as promised is a brief discussion paper describing some of the options for how the Academies could be of assistance to CEQ and the agencies during the process of updating NEPA regulations.

Please let us know what you think. We would be happy to provide additional details about any of the options and/or continue our conversations if it would be helpful.

Best,

Greg

Gregory H. Symmes, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Division on Earth and Life Studies
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-334-2500
gsymmes@nas.edu

From: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 7:35 AM
To: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <AStaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>; Jones, Dawn <DJones@nas.edu>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

4pm would work nicely
I can send around a conference line
There are no materials to share at this point
Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On May 4, 2018, at 7:18 AM, Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu> wrote:

Ted-

Thanks for your note. We would be happy to talk with you about potential NAS participation in the CEQ update to NEPA regulations.

Are you available for a call this afternoon at 4pm? Some of my staff will be offsite, so if that works for you we'll set up a conference call.

We look forward to talking with you. Are there any background materials? I was able to find the notice on OMB's website ([->https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eoDetails?rrid=128051<<](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eoDetails?rrid=128051)) but don't see any supporting documents. If there are any such documents that you can share please send them along so we can look them over before our call.

Best,

Greg

Gregory H. Symmes, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Division on Earth and Life Studies
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-334-2500
gsymmes@nas.edu

From: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:36 PM
To: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <ASTaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Greg,

I regret having taken so long to get back to you. I was at an Arctic Council meeting on environmental impact assessment in Canada last week which, coincidentally, was directly related to this proposal. I'd like to talk with you tomorrow or next week about potential NAS participation in the CEQ update to its NEPA regulations, which would be the first comprehensive update of the regulations in 40 years. Today, OMB recorded the receipt of our ANPRM for clearance (see >><https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eoReviewSearch><<). If you are available tomorrow afternoon or next Monday afternoon, I'd like to talk with you about this.

Regards,
Ted

From: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 1:50 PM
To: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <ASTaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Ted-

Great to hear from you. We'd be happy to continue the discussion about the potential for an NAS review of promising practices in environmental impact assessment.

Attached is a short version of a draft NAS proposal focused on "cumulative effects" that was circulated around CEQ and a number of offices within DOI in the 2013-2015 time frame. As you'll see, at the time discussions were focused primarily on Arctic-region dynamics, although the issue could be

framed more broadly if that is what you have in mind today. Hopefully this provides a useful starting point for further discussions.

Should we try to schedule a call or in-person meeting with you and your team for some time next week (after April 30)?

Greg

From: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:50 AM
To: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <ASTaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>; Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Thanks, Greg – I'd like to pick up where we left off in the potential for NAS review of promising practices in environmental impact assessment (EIA).

As I noted in our meeting, CEQ has announced that it is reviewing the CEQ NEPA regulations in order to identify changes needed to update and clarify those regulations. We discussed some work that NAS did about five years ago to develop a proposal for reviewing the state of EIA practice. I'd like to look at whatever you have from that collaboration with CEQ to see if we might be able to use the same scope of work. I'm thinking that it may be useful to have NAS engaged in tandem with a public process.

Looping Amanda, Laura, and Laurie back into the email chain. I'm happy to discuss this, today after April 30, if you have any questions.

Regards,
Ted

Edward A. Boling
Associate Director for the
National Environmental Policy Act
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

From: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 7:53 AM
To: Marchese, April L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

April-

Thanks for letting me know of your transition back to DOT.

My colleagues and I look forward to continuing the conversation with Ted and Marlys, when you are ready.

Greg

From: Marchese, April L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 9:27 PM
To: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Cc: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Greg, I apologize for the belated follow up. Easy to get sidetracked here. I wanted to let you know that I will be returning to my home agency, DOT, but Ted will continue to pursue the issues that we've discussed and will be reaching out to you (although I believe in the near term he is traveling). I'm also copying Marlys Osterhues, on detail to CEQ from DOT, who will also be engaged in this effort.

I really appreciated the good discussions and information that you and your folks provided, and hope we can make some progress on resolving these difficult issues.

Thanks again—
April

From: Symmes, Gregory <GSymmes@nas.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2018 3:57 PM
To: Marchese, April L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Cc: Staudt, Amanda <ASTaudt@nas.edu>; DeFeo, Laura <LDeFeo@nas.edu>; Geller, Laurie <LGeller@nas.edu>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] thanks for the great discussion yesterday

Dear April and Ted-

Amanda, Laura, Laurie, and I really enjoyed our conversation with you yesterday.

I hope our wide-ranging discussion was of some use as you continue to develop near-term guidance and consider potential longer-term efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of environmental reviews.

We would be happy to continue the conversation on any of the topics after you've had a chance to reflect on our discussions and confer with your colleagues. My sense is that some of the more

promising areas where the Academies could be of assistance include the idea of having carrying out technical peer reviews of key documents, convening workshops to bring together experts and other stakeholders to provide input or feedback on your plans, and carrying out consensus studies that would provide advice on particularly challenging issues such as improving methods for evaluating cumulative effects and/or characterizing and communicating uncertainties to decision makers and the public.

I'm copying my colleagues so you can reach out to any of us individually or as a group if you want to follow up on specific issues that arose during yesterday's meeting.

Best,

Greg

Gregory H. Symmes, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Division on Earth and Life Studies
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-334-2500
gsymmes@nas.edu

FW: Q&A's

From: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Patella, Michael A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2018 17:29:40 -0400
Attachments: Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-25-18 confcall TLS-PL-....docx (39.64 kB); Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-25-18- clean.docx (37.22 kB)

FYI

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

From: Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 5:23 PM
To: Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Vandegrift, Scott F. EOP/CEQ
<(b) (6)> Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ
<(b) (6)> Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: Q&A's

Please see the clean and tracked versions to of the Q&A's for your review. It is a compilation of questions from numerous sources, feel free to add more before tomorrow. Probably best to make any additional edits to the clean version.

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

[EXTERNAL] FW: Meeting Request

From: Elise Pickering <epickering@mc-dc.com>
To: "McLaurin, Juschelle D. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6) >
Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2018 17:05:12 -0400

Thank you for passing along to Mary. We appreciate your help and her consideration.
Best,
Elise

From: Elise Pickering
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 3:55 PM
To: (b) (6) <(b) (6)>
Subject: Meeting Request

Mary, Good Afternoon! I hope this note finds you well. I wanted to follow up on our meeting we had with a few members of the Clean Energy Group and see if you would be willing to discuss the WOTUS Rule again. Additionally, we were hoping to discuss NEPA - the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking. The group is meeting with OMB on Monday, July 9th and were hoping you had a bit of time in the afternoon of July 9th or the morning of July 10th. My goal is to bring in Carrie Jenks and possibly a representative from Next Era and possibly Entergy.

I am more than happy to provide any additional information you need or answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration and I very much look forward to hearing from you!

Best,
Elise Finley Pickering
Mehlman Castagnetti Rosen & Thomas
202-585-0258
epickering@mc-dc.com

[EXTERNAL] Extension Request for NEPA Update Docket CEQ-2018-0001

From: Stephanie Hayes Schlea <schlea@amwa.net>
To: "McLaurin, Juschelle D. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6) >
Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2018 13:55:01 -0400
Attachments: AMWA and AWWA Extension Request for NEPA Update CEQ-2018-0001.pdf
(313.63 kB)

Please see the attached joint comment letter from Diane VanDe Hei, Chief Executive Officer at the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) and G. Tracy Mehan, III, Executive Director of Government Affairs for the American Water Works Association (AWWA) regarding CEQ's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) *Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act* (Docket ID No. CEQ-2018-0001).

Stephanie Hayes Schlea
Manager, Regulatory and Scientific Affairs
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Office: 202.331.2820
1620 I Street NW Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006
><http://www.amwa.net><



June 25, 2018

Mary B. Neumayr
Chief of Staff
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, DC 20503

Re: Request for Comment Extension on CEQ's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) *Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act* (Docket ID No. CEQ-2018-0001)

Dear Ms. Neumayr,

The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) is an organization representing CEOs and general managers of the largest publicly owned drinking water utilities in the United States and the American Water Works Association (AWWA) is an international, nonprofit, scientific and educational society dedicated to providing total water solutions assuring the effective management of water. AMWA and AWWA thank the Council on Environmental Quality for the opportunity to comment on CEQ's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM): *Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)* (CEQ-2018-0001).

As many members from both organizations are often applicants for or involved in projects that require review under NEPA, such as those for water supply and delivery, any changes in the NEPA process would significantly impact our members. Therefore our organizations request a 60 day extension to the comment period due to the scope of the requested information and the level of detail that is necessary for the responses. This extension would allow both AMWA and AWWA the time needed to more fully engage our members and to provide the most useful and comprehensive comments possible for the council.

Thank you for consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Diane VanDe Hei
Chief Executive Officer
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies

G. Tracy Mehan, III
Executive Director of Government Affairs
American Water Works Association

Q&A's

From: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Vandegrift, Scott F. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ"
To: <(b) (6)> "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)> "Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)> "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2018 17:23:22 -0400
Attachments: Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-25-18 confcall TLS-PL-....docx (39.64 kB); Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-25-18- clean.docx (37.22 kB)

Please see the clean and tracked versions to of the Q&A's for your review. It is a compilation of questions from numerous sources, feel free to add more before tomorrow. Probably best to make any additional edits to the clean version.

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Comment Log

From: "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

To: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2018 16:01:58 -0400

Attachments: Draft response log.xlsx (29.96 kB)

I logged in the 18 comments received so far and the 2 postcards. What do you think of this arrangement?

What about moving Zip code and Date to the far right and out of the print range? (portal submittals rarely have zip codes, and the date is not really significant.

Email
Letter
Portal
Postcard

NEPA Process:

- 1 Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to ensure that environmental reviews and authorization decisions involving multiple agencies are conducted in a manner that is concurrent, synchronized, timely, and efficient, and if so, how?
- 2 Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to make the NEPA process more efficient by better facilitating agency use of environmental studies, analysis, and decisions conducted in earlier Federal, State, tribal or local environmental reviews or authorization decisions, and if so, how?
- 3 Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to ensure optimal interagency coordination of environmental reviews and authorization decisions, and if so, how?

Scope of NEPA Review:

- 4 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations that relate to the format and page length of NEPA documents and time limits for completion be revised, and if so, how?
- 5 Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to provide greater clarity to ensure NEPA documents better focus on significant issues that are relevant and useful to decisionmakers and the public, and if so, how?
- 6 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to public involvement be revised to be more inclusive and efficient, and if so, how?
- 7 Should definitions of any key NEPA terms in CEQ's NEPA regulations, such as those listed below, be revised, and if so, how?
 - 7a Major Federal Action;
 - 7b Effects;
 - 7c Cumulative Impact;
 - 7d Significantly;
 - 7e Scope; and
 - 7f Other NEPA terms.
- 8 Should any new definitions of key NEPA terms, such as those noted below, be added, and if so, which terms?
 - 8a Alternatives;
 - 8b Purpose and Need;
 - 8c Reasonably Foreseeable;
 - 8d Trivial Violation; and
 - 8e Other NEPA terms.
- 9 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to any of the types of documents listed below be revised, and if so, how?
 - 9a Notice of Intent;
 - 9b Categorical Exclusions Documentation;
 - 9c Environmental Assessments;
 - 9d Findings of No Significant Impact;
 - 9e Environmental Impact Statements;
 - 9f Records of Decision; and
 - 9g Supplements.
- 10 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to the timing of agency action be revised, and if so, how?
- 11 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to agency responsibility and the preparation of NEPA documents by contractors and project applicants be revised, and if so, how?
- 12 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to programmatic NEPA documents and tiering be revised, and if so, how?
- 13 Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to the appropriate range of alternatives in NEPA reviews and which alternatives may be eliminated from detailed analysis be revised, and if so, how?

General:

- 14 Are any provisions of the CEQ's NEPA regulations currently obsolete? If so, please provide specific recommendations on whether they should be modified, rescinded, or replaced.
- 15 Which provisions of the CEQ's NEPA regulations can be updated to reflect new technologies that can be used to make the process more efficient?
- 16 Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to promote coordination of environmental review and authorization decisions, such as combining NEPA analysis and other decision documents, and if so, how?
- 17 Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the implementation of NEPA, and if so, how?
- 18 Are there ways in which the role of tribal governments in the NEPA process should be clarified in CEQ's NEPA regulations, and if so, how?
- 19 Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to ensure that agencies apply NEPA in a manner that reduces unnecessary burdens and delays as much as possible, and if so, how?
- 20 Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations related to mitigation should be revised, and if so, how?

FW: Q&A's

From: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <"o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=a0bc62c0a5454e6fb7a1be504b7d284a-dr">
To: "Angela F. EOP/OMB Colamaria (b) (6) v)" <(b) (6)> Angela Colamaria - Y-D <angela.colamaria@fpisc.gov>
Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2018 17:44:02 -0400
Attachments: Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-25-18 confcall TLS-PL-....docx (39.64 kB); Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-25-18- clean.docx (37.22 kB)

FYI – draft Q&A's from the infrastructure team. We're still working on these, but wanted to get you something to review sooner than later.

From: Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 5:23 PM
To: Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Vandegrift, Scott F. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: Q&A's

Please see the clean and tracked versions to of the Q&A's for your review. It is a compilation of questions from numerous sources, feel free to add more before tomorrow. Probably best to make any additional edits to the clean version.

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

Q and A's

From: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Vandegrift, Scott F. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Patella, Michael A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Tue, 26 Jun 2018 17:32:35 -0400
Attachments: Draft Question and Answer for Senate Roundtable 6-26-18 Alex.docx (43.83 kB)

They still need work, but (b) (5)
(b) (6). Pick up here manana.

Thomas L. Sharp
Senior Advisor for Infrastructure
Council on Environmental Quality
Executive Office of the President
(b) (6)
(b) (6)
www.whitehouse.gov/ceq

ANPR Comments Update

From: "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

To: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Fri, 29 Jun 2018 11:37:37 -0400

15 new submittals since yesterday:

3 more extension requests (one for 30 days, the other two for 60 days like the ones reported earlier)

1 substantive comments, recommending a NEPA pre-planning process before the NOI, similar to the BLM and FERC approach

11 short general comments (different names but similar tone and length) against substantive change, especially if it would reduce public involvement

So far: Specific comments saved in folder

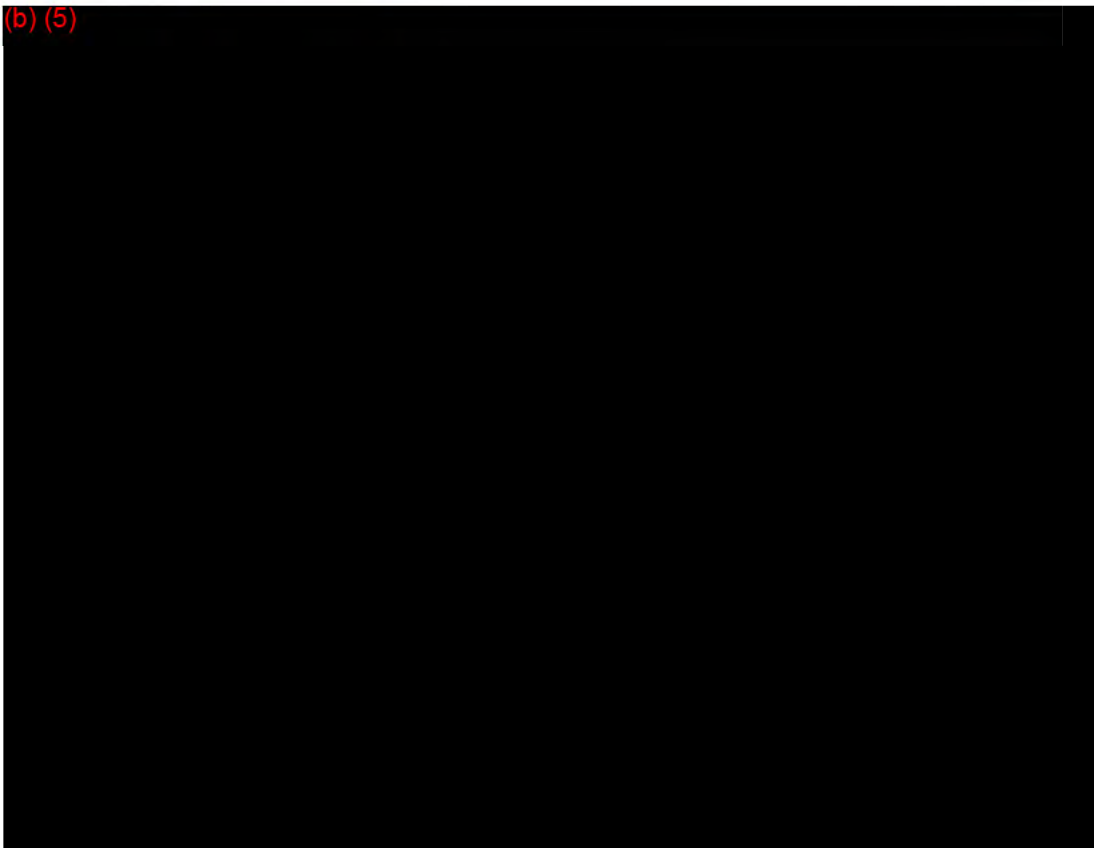
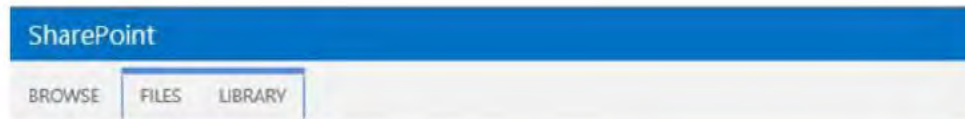
From: "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

To: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Mon, 09 Jul 2018 16:16:56 -0400

I set up subfolders under the ANOPR folder: one for specific comments (where the 9 received so far have been saved) and one for general comments that do not cite or match up to specific questions.

The key to the comments is the "Draft response log" spreadsheet, which is also in the ANOPR folder.



Yardena Mansoor
Deputy Associate Director for NEPA
Council on Environmental Quality
(b) (6) / (b) (6)

[EXTERNAL] Re: CEQ NEPA Regulations ANPRM

From: Adam Cramer <adam@outdooralliance.org>

To: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Cc: Louis Geltman <louis@outdooralliance.org>

Date: Tue, 10 Jul 2018 11:13:36 -0400

Mr. Drummond -

Thank you for the extension.

Kind regards,

Adam

On Tue, Jul 10, 2018 at 10:44 AM, FN-CEQ-NEPA <(b) (6)> wrote:

Dear Colleagues,

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is extending the comment period on the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), which was originally scheduled to close on July 20, 2018, through August 20, 2018. CEQ is making this change in response to public requests for an extension of the comment period. The notice of the extension of the ANPRM is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register tomorrow, July 11, 2018. The pre-publication version of the notice is attached to this email and available [here](#).

Sincerely,

Michael Drummond

Deputy Associate Director for NEPA

Council on Environmental Quality

(b) (6)

From: FN-CEQ-NEPA

Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 12:44 PM

To: Schneider, Daniel J. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Cc: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>; Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ

<(b) (6)>; Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>

Subject: CEQ NEPA Regulations ANPRM

Dear Colleagues,

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has submitted an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) titled "Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" to the *Federal Register* for publication and public comment. As a respected member of the NEPA community, I want to ensure that you are engaged early in the process as CEQ begins this undertaking.

I've attached a copy of the ANPRM for your reference. (><https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2018-13246.pdf><) The official version will publish in the *Federal Register*. The ANPRM asks a series of 20 questions on the NEPA process, the scope of NEPA review, and other areas of interest related to NEPA. CEQ requests comment on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ's NEPA regulations. Comments should be submitted on or before July 20, 2018, and should be submitted through ><https://www.regulations.gov>< by following the online instructions for submitting comments to Docket ID No. CEQ-2018-0001.

Sincerely,

Ted

Edward A. Boling

Associate Director for the

National Environmental Policy Act

Council on Environmental Quality

730 Jackson Place

Washington, DC 20503

--

Adam Cramer
Executive Director | Outdoor Alliance
1602 L St NW, Ste 600
Washington, DC 20036
202.765.8070

>www.outdooralliance.org<

Response to RM Carper re: NEPA ANPR

From: "Pettigrew, Theresa L. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=579eb754b4c34f0e8e46d1fb4cd708d7-pe">
To: matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov, "James R. Willson (James_Willson@epw.senate.gov)" <james_willson@epw.senate.gov>, "Tardif, Abigale (EPW)" <abigale_tardif@epw.senate.gov>
Date: Wed, 18 Jul 2018 14:48:20 -0400
Attachments: 07.11.18 - CEQ Letter - ANPR FINAL.pdf (867.17 kB); 2018-07-18_Letter to Sen Carper_re ANPRM.pdf (213.76 kB)

Hello,
Attached is the letter we received July 11, and our follow up response sent today.
An identical response letter will be sent individually to all Senators who signed the July 11 letter.
Thank you,
Theresa

Theresa L. Pettigrew
Associate Director for Legislative Affairs
Council on Environmental Quality
(b) (6) (direct)

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 11, 2018

Ms. Mary Neumayr
Chief of Staff
Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place NW
Washington DC 20506

Dear Ms. Neumayr,

We write today in response to the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) that was released by CEQ on June 20th. The questions posed in this ANPRM touch on every aspect of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, and the regulatory changes that may result have the potential to profoundly affect how members of the public may engage in decisions made by Federal agencies. As you undertake such a broad review of NEPA, we request that you commit to hold public meetings and to extend the public comment period by an additional 60 days, to allow for meaningful public input.

As you know, the current NEPA regulations were originally issued in 1978 in order to produce better decisions and to further the national policy to protect and enhance the quality of the environment. In the forty years since then, the substance of the regulations have been changed only once. Given the abundance of social, technological, and environmental changes that have occurred since 1978, we hope that this rulemaking process can result in common-sense considerations to improve environmental outcomes and opportunities for public involvement, while also improving decision-making and reducing regulatory costs. Most importantly, any change must be certain not to degrade the quality of the human and natural environment, which is the essential goal of NEPA.

In order for the regulatory process to achieve this optimal outcome, CEQ must commit to robust public involvement. Only by hearing from the public can we be sure that the public will benefit from proposed changes. Unfortunately, the early indication is that opportunities will be limited for the public to weigh in on the changes to implementation of this foundational environmental protection law. The ANPRM provides for only a 30-day comment period, and CEQ has made no commitment to hold public meetings as a forum to gather comments and suggestions from the general public.

Limiting public involvement for this type of regulatory overhaul is particularly concerning in this instance, given that the very intent of NEPA is to ensure that before undertaking significant actions—such as a significant rulemaking—Federal agencies must hear from the public, and consider those public comments. As representatives of States from across the nation, our concerns about the implications of this rulemaking are wide-ranging. Changes to the NEPA process will affect decisions ranging from federal land management, to construction of roads and bridges, from flight patterns, to ecosystem restoration, to tribal negotiations, and more. Given this broad scope of potential changes, public involvement in the regulations should be *broader* than usual, and should include outreach to diverse constituents, through regional and national public meetings, as well as through online forums and targeted listening sessions with affected stakeholders.

As described in the current implementing regulations, which CEQ now seeks to change, one of the goals of NEPA is to “encourage and facilitate public involvement in decisions which affect the quality of the human environment.”¹ It further states explicitly that agencies shall “Make diligent efforts to involve the public in preparing and implementing their NEPA procedures.”² Changes to CEQ’s own NEPA procedures, which will affect project-level analysis and decisions in all Federal agencies, for decades to come, will have enormous consequences for the quality of the human environment, and therefore should be informed by ample public involvement.

Former CEQ directors have agreed on the importance of public involvement in developing implementing procedures, and there is significant precedent for CEQ to conduct public hearings as part of development of NEPA regulations. For instance, in 1978, in the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for the NEPA implementing procedures, CEQ described the process followed prior to publication of the NPRM and indicated the importance of the public hearings conducted. The NPRM stated in part that:

We have been greatly assisted in our task by the hundreds of people who responded to our call for suggestions on how to make the NEPA process work better. In public hearings which we held in June 1977, we invited testimony from a broad array of public officials, organizations, and private citizens, affirmatively involving NEPA’s critics as well as its friends. Among those represented were the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which coordinated testimony from business; the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, for labor; the National Conference of State Legislatures, for state and local governments, the Natural Resources Defense Council, for environmental groups. Scientists, scholars, and the general public were there.³

Additionally in 1986, the only other time that amendments have been made to CEQ’s NEPA procedures, public meetings were an important part of the process. The notice of proposed rulemaking in August 1985 provides record of CEQ’s outreach: “On March 18, 1985, the

¹ 40 CFR 1500.2(d)

² 40 CFR 1506.6(a)

³ National Environmental Policy Act—Regulations: Proposed Implementation of Procedural Provisions. Fed. Reg. Vol. 43, No. 112 (6/9/1978) page 25231. <https://ceq.doe.gov/docs/laws-regulations/FR-1978-06-09-43-FR-25230-CEQ-NEPA-Regulations-NOPR.pdf>

Council held a meeting, open to the public, to discuss the comments received in response to the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.”⁴ In fact, CEQ at this time went so far as to prepare a special environmental assessment regarding the change, even though the change was limited to a single provision.

Another important way for CEQ to make “diligent efforts to involve the public” would be to provide a more meaningful public comment period. The rulemaking to propose the NEPA procedures that CEQ now seeks to change allowed 73 days for the public to provide comments and suggestions. Given the wide breadth of questions posed to the public in the ANPRM and the unprecedented scope of reforms that are being contemplated, it would be appropriate to provide an additional 60 days beyond the 30 days that has been proposed.

NEPA is perhaps the most important public involvement tool in our nation, and “diligent efforts to engage the public” is the standard established in the current NEPA implementing procedures. This standard should govern CEQ’s efforts to revise the implementing procedures. But perhaps even more important than compliance with existing regulations, CEQ should commit to ample public involvement because it will improve the quality of the final regulations. Thoughtful, effective, and publicly beneficial regulations are a shared goal for us all, and the best way to achieve that is by engaging the public. Thank you for working with us to ensure the best outcome for all Americans and for the natural environment we all share.

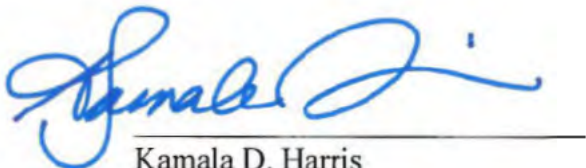
Sincerely,



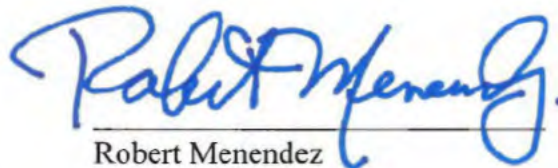
Tom Carper
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Kamala D. Harris
United States Senator

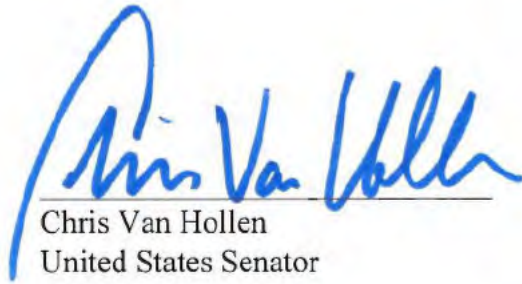


Robert Menendez
United States Senator

⁴ National Environmental Policy Act Regulations. Fed. Reg. Vol. 50, No. 154 (8/9/1985) page 32234
<https://ceq.doe.gov/docs/laws-regulations/FR-1985-08-09-50-FR-32238-CEQ-NEPA-Regulations-NOPR-amending-1502-22.pdf>



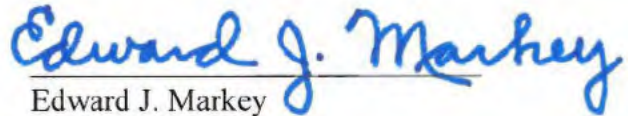
Tina Smith
United States Senator



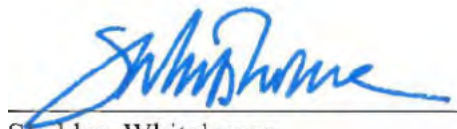
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



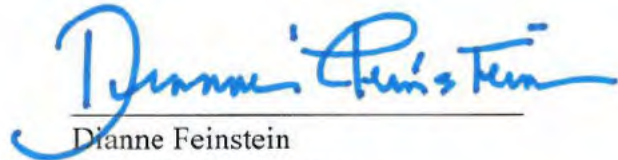
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



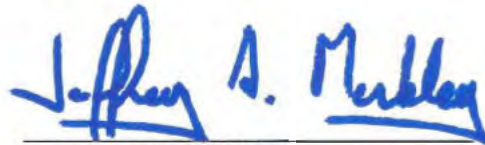
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Tom Udall
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON D.C. 20503

July 18, 2018

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Carper:

Thank you for your letter of July 11, 2018 regarding the advance notice of proposed rulemaking titled "Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" that the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) published in the Federal Register on June 20, 2018. The original comment period was scheduled to close on July 20, 2018.

On July 11, 2018, CEQ published a notice in the Federal Register extending the comment period for an additional 31 days in response to requests from the public. The comment period is now scheduled to close on August 20, 2018, and comments can be submitted electronically via <http://www.regulations.gov> or by mail. The extension notice is available at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-07-11/pdf/2018-14821.pdf>.

Robust public engagement is critical to the rulemaking process. Should CEQ propose potential revisions to update its regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, CEQ will provide additional opportunities for public input. Thank you again and I look forward to working with you on important national environmental policy matters.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Neumayr
Chief of Staff

ANOPR Comments

Where: NEPA Suite - my desk

When: Thu Jul 26 10:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Thu Jul 26 10:30:00 2018 (America/New York)

Organiser: "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=2712a19fd57447088e0b9da580c16e15-ma">

Required "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Attendees "Carlin, Erin A. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>

: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Erin, Let's discuss how to stay on top of managing the comment documents while I am on vacation (Friday and all of next week). I'm thinking we should make the current complete log the second worksheet, then display only the in-scope comments on the first sheet. Any other ideas? I don't think we want to scroll through (or print) pages and pages of extension requests, general opinions, and out of scope comments in the log. Any other ideas?

Michael, You are welcome to join us, but I believe you have a schedule conflict, so I'll fill you in later.

CEQ Brief-out at UFR Interagency Meeting

From: "Upchurch, Sara" <sara.upchurch@fema.dhs.gov>
To: "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6) "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Cc: "Upchurch, Sara H. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 26 Jul 2018 11:22:12 -0400

Ted / Marlys – Below are the notes I captured during Michael’s brief-out at the recent Unified Federal Review Interagency Meeting. Please feel free to let me know if I need to make any changes before I send out to the group later today/early tomorrow:

(1) CEQ has issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to assist in considering updating its NEPA implementing regulations:

- a. CEQ solicits public comment on potential revisions to update the regulations and ensure a more efficient, timely, and effective NEPA process.
 - b. The comment period has recently been extended an additional 31 days to August 20, 2018.
 - c. Comments have been requested on specific aspects of the regulations via 20 questions supplied in the ANPRM. CEQ also requests that commenters provide specific recommendations on additions, deletions, and modifications to the text of CEQ’s NEPA regulations and their justifications in answering these 20 questions.
 - d. (b) (5) [REDACTED]
 - e. If CEQ decides to proceed with rulemaking based on comments received, the next step would be a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.
-

(2) Executive Order 13807 and One Federal Decision requirements:

- This EO applies to infrastructure projects that develop “the public and private physical assets that are designed to provide or support services to the general public” for various infrastructure sectors.
- Many of the provisions of the EO apply to "major infrastructure projects," defined in the EO as “projects for which multiple Federal authorizations are required to proceed with construction, the lead Federal agency has determined that it will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., and the project sponsor has identified the reasonable availability of funds sufficient to complete the project.”

-
- For each major infrastructure project, agencies will work together to develop a single Permitting Timetable for the necessary environmental review and authorization decisions, prepare a single environmental impact statement (EIS), sign a single record of decision (ROD), and issue all necessary authorization decisions within 90 days of issuance of the ROD, subject to limited exceptions.

-
- E.O. 13807 sets a goal for agencies of reducing the time for completing environmental reviews and authorization decisions to an agency average of not more than two years from publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS.

-
- Agencies signed an MOU in early April 2018 (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/MOU-One-Federal-Decision-m-18-13-Part-2.pdf>), which includes concurrence points during the environmental/historic review process.

- (b) (5) [REDACTED]

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

Sara Upchurch, AICP
Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (OEHP)
Unified Federal Review (UFR)
Liaison to Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)
FIMA/FEMA/DHS
400 C Street SW
Washington, DC 20472-3020

(b) (6) (c)
sara.upchurch@fema.dhs.gov



CEQ Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

Where: Webinar: (b) (6)

When: Wed Jun 20 15:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Wed Jun 20 16:30:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Organiser: FN-CEQ-NEPA </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=3dfc5ad8035346949f6dddfa1953a47-fn">
 FN-CEQ-NEPA <fn-ceq-nepa@ceq.eop.gov>

Required Attendees:
 "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 "Upchurch, Sara H. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 "Hanley, Karen A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
 denise.freeman@hq.doe.gov
 "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Good afternoon Federal NEPA Contacts,

In advance of tomorrow's webinar, we have updated the tele-conference participant code (correct code is (b) (6)). Please find attached 1) a meeting agenda for tomorrow's webinar, 2) a slide deck for those unable to join the webinar, 3) instructions for joining the webinar, 4) the pre-publication version of the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the CEQ NEPA Regulations, and 5) a Report from the Federal Forum on Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution.

Lastly, please take a moment to review your agency's NEPA Contact listed here: <https://ceq.doe.gov/docs/nepa-practice/2018-Federal-NEPA-contacts-and-websites-2018-06-15.pdf> and provide any necessary updates via email to NEPA@ceq.eop.gov

Sincerely,

The CEQ NEPA Team

CEQ will host the Summer Meeting of the Federal NEPA Contacts via webinar on Wednesday, June 20 from 3:00pm – 4:30pm EDT.

Conference number and webinar URL are provided below. An agenda will be provided in advance of the meeting along with a PDF of the webinar slides for those unable to join the webinar.

Audio Conference Details:

Conference Number (Toll Free): (b) (6) [REDACTED]

Participant Code (b) (6) [REDACTED]

To join the meeting:

(b) (6) [REDACTED]

If you have never attended an Adobe Connect meeting before:

Test your connection: https://meet.gsa.gov/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm

Get a quick overview: <http://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>

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Council on Environmental Quality

Council on Environmental Quality

Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar



Wednesday, June 20, 2018

3:00-4:30pm

Council on Environmental Quality



Agenda

Council on Environmental Quality

- 3:00pm Introduction**
- 3:05pm Update from EJ Interagency Working Group NEPA Sub-Committee**
- 3:15pm Update from EPA's Office of Federal Activities**
- 3:20pm CEQ's Review of Regulations Implementing NEPA**
- 3:55pm Updates on CEQ Initiatives**
- *ECCR Ten Year Report*
 - *One Federal Decision*
 - *EIS Timeline Data*
 - *CE Guidance and CE List*
- 4:05pm OMB Accountability System**
- *Accountability System –Permitting Dashboard, agency CERPO roles*
- 4:15pm Open Discussion**

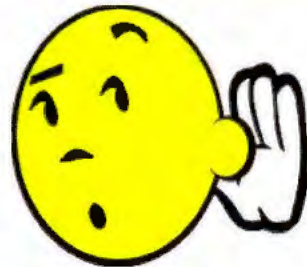
2

CEQ075FY18150_000001029



Council on Environmental Quality

“Have you heard about the Promising Practices Report?”

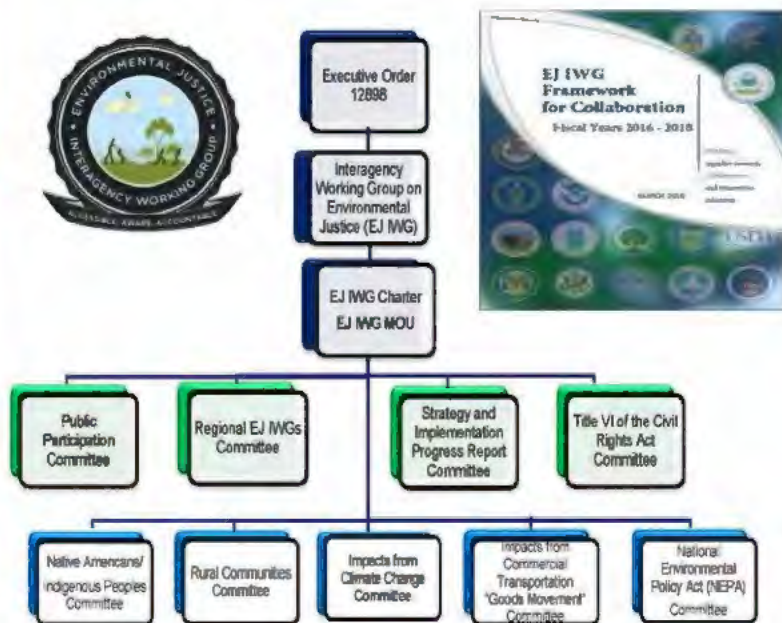


Denise C. Freeman
Co-chair, NEPA Committee
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice
CEQ Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

EJ and NEPA Through the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice



EJ IWG Governance Structure 2016 - 2018



Charter & MOU (2011)

NEPA Committee Purpose:

- Improve effective, efficient and consistent consideration of EJ in the NEPA process
- Share promising practices/lessons learned developed by federal government NEPA practitioners
- Provide cross agency training on EJ and NEPA

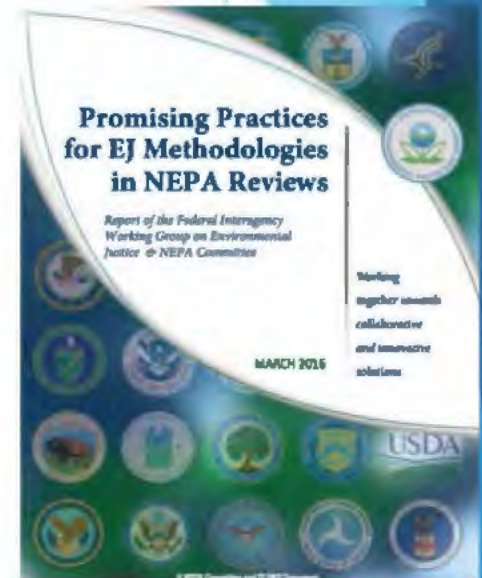


December 2015

Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews Report of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice & NEPA Committee (March 2016)



- The report provides an in-depth collection of principles and practices for considering and addressing EJ issues at every step of the NEPA process and should be used in conjunction with established CEQ and NEPA Guidance.
- The NEPA Committee, comprised of Federal NEPA practitioners across the federal family, believes that all federal agencies can benefit from developing effective, efficient, and consistent approaches to addressing environmental justice in their NEPA process.
- The report is available on the EJ IWG's website:
<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-iwg-promising-practices-ej-methodologies-nepa-reviews>.



Substance: Report on Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews

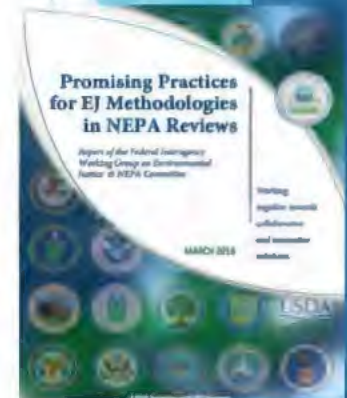
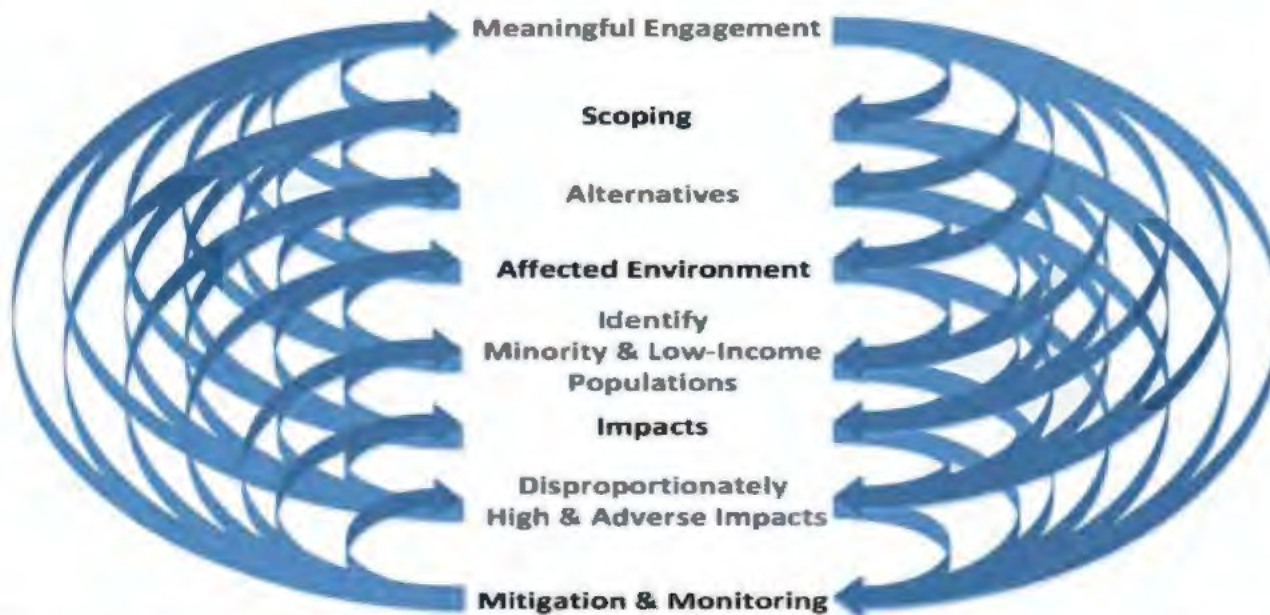


- Compilation of “promising practices” organized in coordinated, functional framework concerning interface of environmental justice considerations through NEPA processes
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- Captures collective thinking and thoughtful deliberation of shared information and results of research, analysis and discussions
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Elements of the Promising Practices Report



Environmental Justice Within National Environmental Policy Act Reviews





Future & Next Steps: Implementation Collaboration, and Innovation



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- Publish and promote the use of the Community Guide to Environmental Justice and NEPA Methods
- Support CEQ's efforts in implementing EO 13087

8



“Now that you’ve heard about the Promising Practices Report...”



- Spread the word about the Promising Practices Report and the Community Guide, i.e., training or a briefing at your agency
- Volunteer and get involved with our efforts to promote more awareness
- Continue Implementation and Collaboration at your agencies on EJ and NEPA issues
- Give feedback on the Promising Practices Report



Thank You

Denise C. Freeman

Denise.Freeman@hq.doe.gov

EPA NEPA/309 Update



NEPA/309 Survey Results

- ▶ Over 160 respondents across 43 agencies
- ▶ Feedback centered around 3 primary subject areas:
 - ▶ Quality and consistency of 309 letters
 - ▶ Value of early engagement
 - ▶ Utility of 309 Rating System



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Council on Environmental Quality

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CEQ075FY18150_000001029



Council on Environmental Quality



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Welcome

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was enacted to "declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality." (Sec. 2 [42 U.S. Code § 4321])

NEPA is our basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy, sets goals (section 101), and provides means (section 102) for carrying out the policy. Section 102 (2) contains "action forcing" provisions to make sure that federal agencies act according to the letter and spirit of the Act.

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Council on Environmental Quality



[3225-F8]

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508

[Docket No. CEQ-2018-0001]

RIN: 0331-AA03

Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

ACTION: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is considering updating its implementing regulations for the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Over the past four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has amended its regulations substantively only once. Given the length of time since its NEPA implementing regulations were issued, CEQ solicits public comment on potential revisions to update the regulations and ensure a more efficient, timely, and effective NEPA process consistent with the national environmental policy stated in NEPA.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number CEQ-2018-0001 through the Federal eRulemaking portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward A. Boling, Associate Director for the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality, 730 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20503. Telephone: (202) 395-5750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq., was enacted in 1970. NEPA states that “it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.” 42 U.S.C. § 4331(a). NEPA also established CEQ as an agency within the Executive Office of the President. 42 U.S.C. § 4342.

By Executive Order (E.O.) 11514, “Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality” (March 5, 1970), President Nixon directed CEQ in Section 3(h) to issue “guidelines to Federal agencies for the preparation of detailed statements on proposals for legislation and other Federal actions affecting the environment, as required by section 102(2)(C) of the Act.” CEQ published these guidelines in April of 1970 and revised them in 1973.

President Carter issued E.O. 11991 (May 24, 1977), “Relating to Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality,” which amended Section 3(h) of E.O. 11514 to direct CEQ to issue regulations providing uniform standards for the implementation of

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On August 15, 2017, President Trump issued E.O. 13807, “Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects.” 82 FR 40463 (August 24, 2017). Section 5(e) of E.O. 13807 directed CEQ to develop an initial list of actions to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review and authorization process. In response, CEQ published its initial list of actions pursuant to E.O. 13807 and stated that it intends to review its existing NEPA regulations in order to identify changes needed to update and clarify these regulations. 82 FR 43226 (September 14, 2017).

II. Request for Comment

CEQ requests comments on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ NEPA regulations. In particular, CEQ requests comments on the following specific aspects of these regulations, and requests that commenters include question numbers when providing responses. Where possible, please provide specific recommendations on additions, deletions, and modifications to the text of CEQ’s NEPA regulations and their justifications.

NEPA Process:

1. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to ensure that environmental reviews and authorization decisions involving multiple agencies are conducted in a manner that is concurrent, synchronized, timely, and efficient, and if so, how?
2. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to make the NEPA process more efficient by better facilitating agency use of environmental studies, analysis, and decisions conducted in earlier Federal, State, tribal or local environmental reviews or authorization decisions, and if so, how?
3. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to ensure optimal interagency coordination of environmental reviews and authorization decisions, and if so, how?

Scope of NEPA Review:

4. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations that relate to the format and page length of NEPA documents and time limits for completion be revised, and if so, how?
5. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to provide greater clarity to ensure NEPA documents better focus on significant issues that are relevant and useful to decisionmakers and the public, and if so, how?
6. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to public involvement be revised to be more inclusive and efficient, and if so, how?
7. Should definitions of any key NEPA terms in CEQ's NEPA regulations, such as those listed below, be revised, and if so, how?
 - a. Major Federal Action;
 - b. Effects;

- c. Cumulative Impact;
 - d. Significantly;
 - e. Scope; and
 - f. Other NEPA terms.
8. Should any new definitions of key NEPA terms, such as those noted below, be added, and if so, which terms?
- a. Alternatives;
 - b. Purpose and Need;
 - c. Reasonably Foreseeable;
 - d. Trivial Violation; and
 - e. Other NEPA terms.
9. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to any of the types of documents listed below be revised, and if so, how?
- a. Notice of Intent;
 - b. Categorical Exclusions Documentation;
 - c. Environmental Assessments;
 - d. Findings of No Significant Impact;
 - e. Environmental Impact Statements;
 - f. Records of Decision; and
 - g. Supplements.
10. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to the timing of agency action be revised, and if so, how?

11. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to agency responsibility and the preparation of NEPA documents by contractors and project applicants be revised, and if so, how?
12. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to programmatic NEPA documents and tiering be revised, and if so, how?
13. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to the appropriate range of alternatives in NEPA reviews and which alternatives may be eliminated from detailed analysis be revised, and if so, how?

General:

14. Are any provisions of the CEQ's NEPA regulations currently obsolete? If so, please provide specific recommendations on whether they should be modified, rescinded, or replaced.
15. Which provisions of the CEQ's NEPA regulations can be updated to reflect new technologies that can be used to make the process more efficient?
16. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to promote coordination of environmental review and authorization decisions, such as combining NEPA analysis and other decision documents, and if so, how?
17. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the implementation of NEPA, and if so, how?
18. Are there ways in which the role of tribal governments in the NEPA process should be clarified in CEQ's NEPA regulations, and if so, how?

19. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to ensure that agencies apply NEPA in a manner that reduces unnecessary burdens and delays as much as possible, and if so, how?

20. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations related to mitigation should be revised, and if so, how?

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4332, 4342, 4344 and 40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508)

III. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under E.O. 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review," 58 FR 51735 (October 4, 1993), this is a "significant regulatory action." Accordingly, CEQ submitted this action to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under E.O. 12866 and any changes made in response to OMB recommendations have been documented in the docket for this action. Because this action does not propose or impose any requirements, and instead seeks comments and suggestions for CEQ to consider in possibly developing a subsequent proposed rule, the various statutes and executive orders that normally apply to rulemaking do not apply in this case. If CEQ decides in the future to pursue a rulemaking, CEQ will address the statutes and executive orders applicable to that rulemaking at that time.

Mary B. Neumayr,

Chief of Staff, Council on Environmental Quality.

[FR Doc. 2018-13246 Filed: 6/19/2018 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/20/2018]

Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

(b) (6) Participant Code (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Agenda

- 3:00pm Introduction**
- 3:05pm Update from EJ Interagency Working Group NEPA Sub-Committee**
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Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

From: FN-CEQ-NEPA <fn-ceq-nepa@ceq.eop.gov>

To: FN-CEQ-NEPA <fn-ceq-nepa@ceq.eop.gov>

Cc: "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6) "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6) "Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6)

Date: Wed, 20 Jun 2018 12:55:54 -0400

Attachments : NEPA Contacts Mtg 6.20 - Agenda.docx (29.2 kB); CEQ NEPA Regulations ANPRM (pre-publication).pdf (161.5 kB); ECCR_Benefits_Recommendations_Report_5-02-018.pdf (259.56 kB); CEQNEPAContactsWebinar_06_20_18_final.pdf (1.39 MB); Webinar Instructions 062018.doc (235.52 kB)

Federal NEPA Contacts,

Apologies for an additional email, but there were some indications that yesterday's calendar invite update was not received by all, so its contents are being resent in this email. See you all online at 3:00pm (EDT).

In advance of today's webinar, we have updated the tele-conference participant code (correct code is (b) (6)). Pleased find attached 1) a meeting agenda for tomorrow's webinar, 2) a slide deck for those unable to join the webinar, 3) instructions for joining the webinar, 4) the pre-publication version of the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the CEQ NEPA Regulations, and 5) a Report from the Federal Forum on Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution.

Lastly, please take a moment to review your agency's NEPA Contact listed here: <https://ceq.doe.gov/docs/nepa-practice/2018-Federal-NEPA-contacts-and-websites-2018-06-15.pdf> and provide any necessary updates via email to NEPA@ceq.eop.gov

Sincerely,

The CEQ NEPA Team

CEQ will host the Summer Meeting of the Federal NEPA Contacts via webinar on Wednesday, June 20 from 3:00pm – 4:30pm EDT.

Conference number and webinar URL are provided below. An agenda will be provided in advance of the meeting along with a PDF of the webinar slides for those unable to join the webinar.

Audio Conference Details:

Conference Number (Toll Free): (b) (6)

Participant Code: (b) (6)

To join the meeting:

(b) (6)

If you have never attended an Adobe Connect meeting before:

Test your connection: https://meet.gsa.gov/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm

Get a quick overview: <http://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>

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Council on Environmental Quality

Council on Environmental Quality

Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar



Wednesday, June 20, 2018

3:00-4:30pm

Council on Environmental Quality



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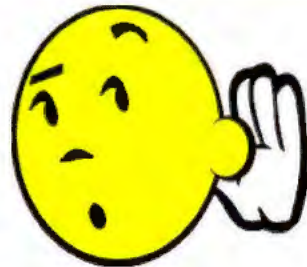
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Council on Environmental Quality

“Have you heard about the Promising Practices Report?”

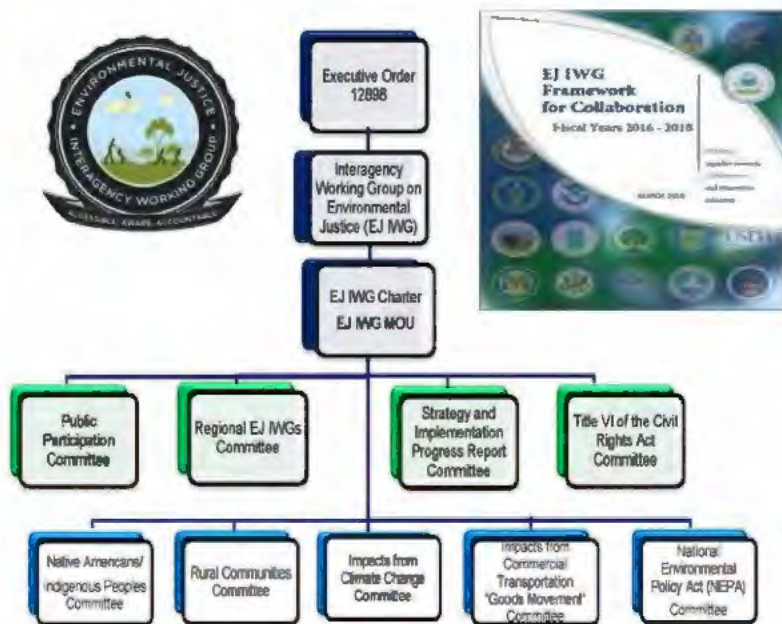


Denise C. Freeman
Co-chair, NEPA Committee
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice
CEQ Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

EJ and NEPA Through the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice



EJ IWG Governance Structure 2016 - 2018



December 2015

Charter & MOU (2011)

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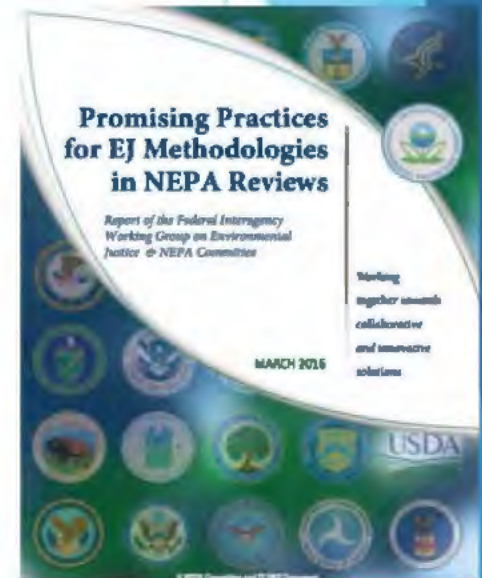
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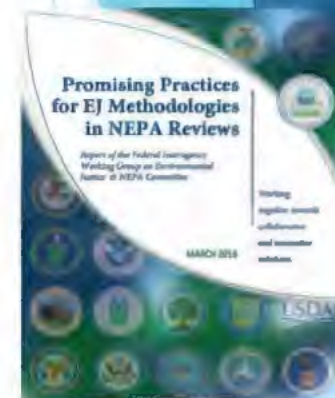
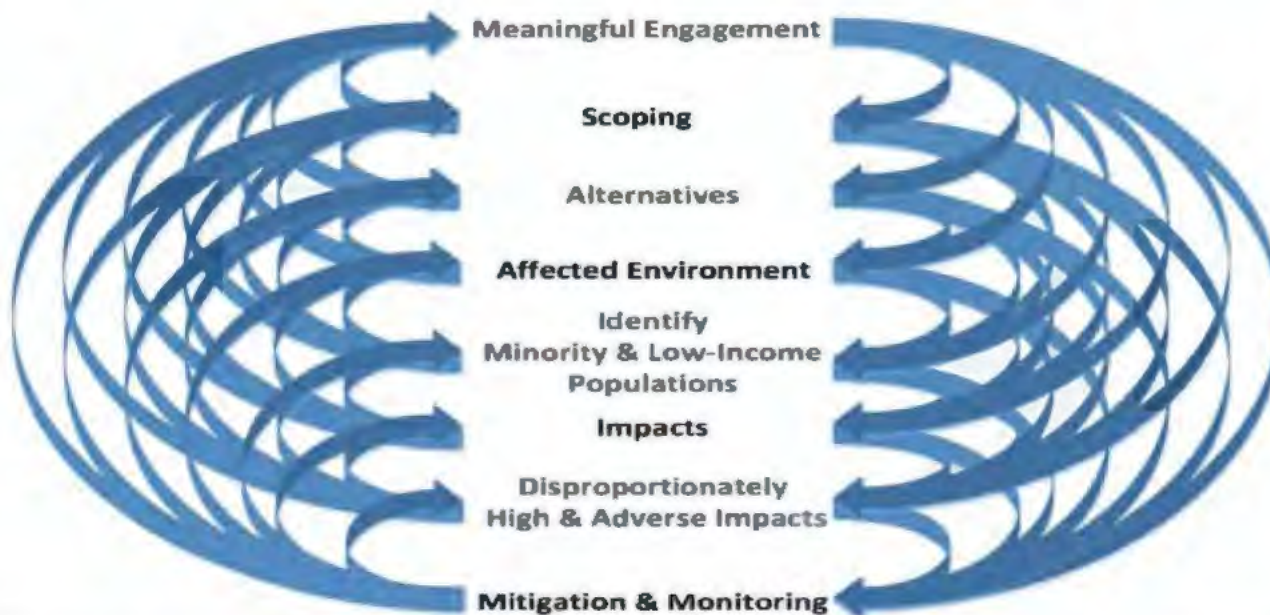


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Council on Environmental Quality

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[3225-F8]

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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[Docket No. CEQ-2018-0001]

RIN: 0331-AA03

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward A. Boling, Associate Director for the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality, 730 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20503. Telephone: (202) 395-5750.

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 - b. Effects;

- c. Cumulative Impact;
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 - f. Other NEPA terms.
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(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4332, 4342, 4344 and 40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508)

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Under E.O. 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review," 58 FR 51735 (October 4, 1993), this is a "significant regulatory action." Accordingly, CEQ submitted this action to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under E.O. 12866 and any changes made in response to OMB recommendations have been documented in the docket for this action. Because this action does not propose or impose any requirements, and instead seeks comments and suggestions for CEQ to consider in possibly developing a subsequent proposed rule, the various statutes and executive orders that normally apply to rulemaking do not apply in this case. If CEQ decides in the future to pursue a rulemaking, CEQ will address the statutes and executive orders applicable to that rulemaking at that time.

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Chief of Staff, Council on Environmental Quality.

[FR Doc. 2018-13246 Filed: 6/19/2018 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/20/2018]

FW: Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

From: "Osterhues, Marlys A. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=b7e9898c6a8e463cb2a7da10b55ed6af-os">

To: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Date: Wed, 20 Jun 2018 15:04:19 -0400

Attachments: NEPA Contacts Mtg 6.20 - Agenda.docx (29.2 kB); CEQ NEPA Regulations ANPRM (pre-publication).pdf (161.5 kB); ECCR_Benefits_Recommendations_Report_5-02-018.pdf (259.56 kB); CEQNEPAContactsWebinar_06_20_18_final.pdf (1.39 MB); Webinar Instructions 062018.doc (235.52 kB)

From: FN-CEQ-NEPA
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 12:56 PM
To: FN-CEQ-NEPA <FN-CEQ-NEPA@ceq.eop.gov>
Cc: Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Mansoor, Yardena M. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
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Sincerely,

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Get a quick overview: <http://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>

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[3225-F8]

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508

[Docket No. CEQ-2018-0001]

RIN: 0331-AA03

Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

ACTION: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is considering updating its implementing regulations for the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Over the past four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has amended its regulations substantively only once. Given the length of time since its NEPA implementing regulations were issued, CEQ solicits public comment on potential revisions to update the regulations and ensure a more efficient, timely, and effective NEPA process consistent with the national environmental policy stated in NEPA.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number CEQ-2018-0001 through the Federal eRulemaking portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward A. Boling, Associate
Director for the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality,
730 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20503. Telephone: (202) 395-5750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq., was enacted in 1970. NEPA states that “it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.” 42 U.S.C. § 4331(a). NEPA also established CEQ as an agency within the Executive Office of the President. 42 U.S.C. § 4342.

By Executive Order (E.O.) 11514, “Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality” (March 5, 1970), President Nixon directed CEQ in Section 3(h) to issue “guidelines to Federal agencies for the preparation of detailed statements on proposals for legislation and other Federal actions affecting the environment, as required by section 102(2)(C) of the Act.” CEQ published these guidelines in April of 1970 and revised them in 1973.

President Carter issued E.O. 11991 (May 24, 1977), “Relating to Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality,” which amended Section 3(h) of E.O. 11514 to direct CEQ to issue regulations providing uniform standards for the implementation of

NEPA, and amended Section 2 of E.O. 11514 to require agency compliance with the CEQ regulations. CEQ promulgated its “Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act” (CEQ’s NEPA regulations) at 40 CFR parts 1500-1508. 43 FR 55978 (November 29, 1978). Since that time, CEQ has amended its NEPA regulations substantively only once, to eliminate the “worst case” analysis requirement of 40 CFR 1502.22. 51 FR 15618 (April 25, 1986).

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Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

(b) (6) Participant Code (b) (6)

(b) (6)

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- 3:00pm Introduction**
- 3:05pm Update from EJ Interagency Working Group NEPA Sub-Committee**
- 3:15pm Update from EPA's Office of Federal Activities**
- 3:20pm CEQ's Review of Regulations Implementing NEPA**
- 3:55pm Updates on CEQ Initiatives**
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 - o *One Federal Decision*
 - o *EIS Timeline Data*
 - o *CE Guidance and CE List*
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Council on Environmental Quality

Council on Environmental Quality

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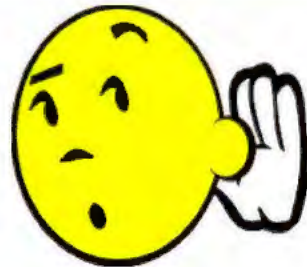
2

CEQ075FY18150_000002676



Council on Environmental Quality

“Have you heard about the Promising Practices Report?”

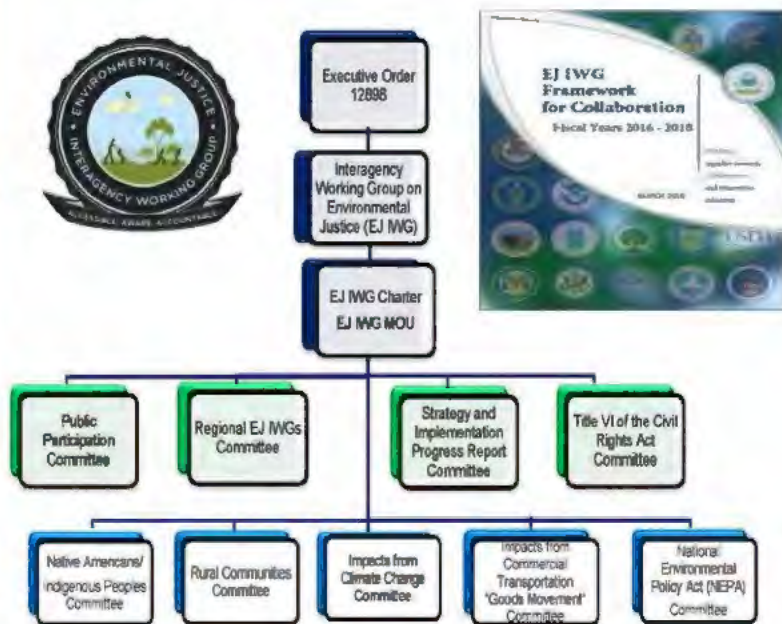


Denise C. Freeman
Co-chair, NEPA Committee
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice
CEQ Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

EJ and NEPA Through the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice



EJ IWG Governance Structure 2016 - 2018



December 2015

Charter & MOU (2011)

NEPA Committee Purpose:

Improve effective, efficient and consistent consideration of EJ in the NEPA process

- Share promising practices/lessons learned developed by federal government NEPA practitioners

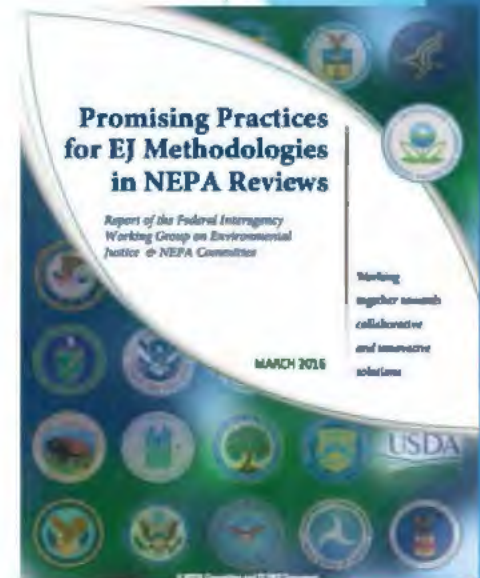
- Provide cross agency training on EJ and NEPA



Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews Report of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice & NEPA Committee (March 2016)



- The report provides an in-depth collection of principles and practices for considering and addressing EJ issues at every step of the NEPA process and should be used in conjunction with established CEQ and NEPA Guidance.
- The NEPA Committee, comprised of Federal NEPA practitioners across the federal family, believes that all federal agencies can benefit from developing effective, efficient, and consistent approaches to addressing environmental justice in their NEPA process.
- The report is available on the EJ IWG's website:
<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-iwg-promising-practices-ej-methodologies-nepa-reviews>.



Substance: Report on Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews

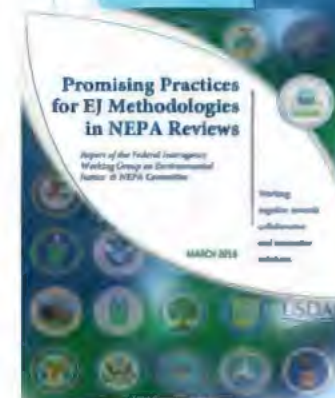
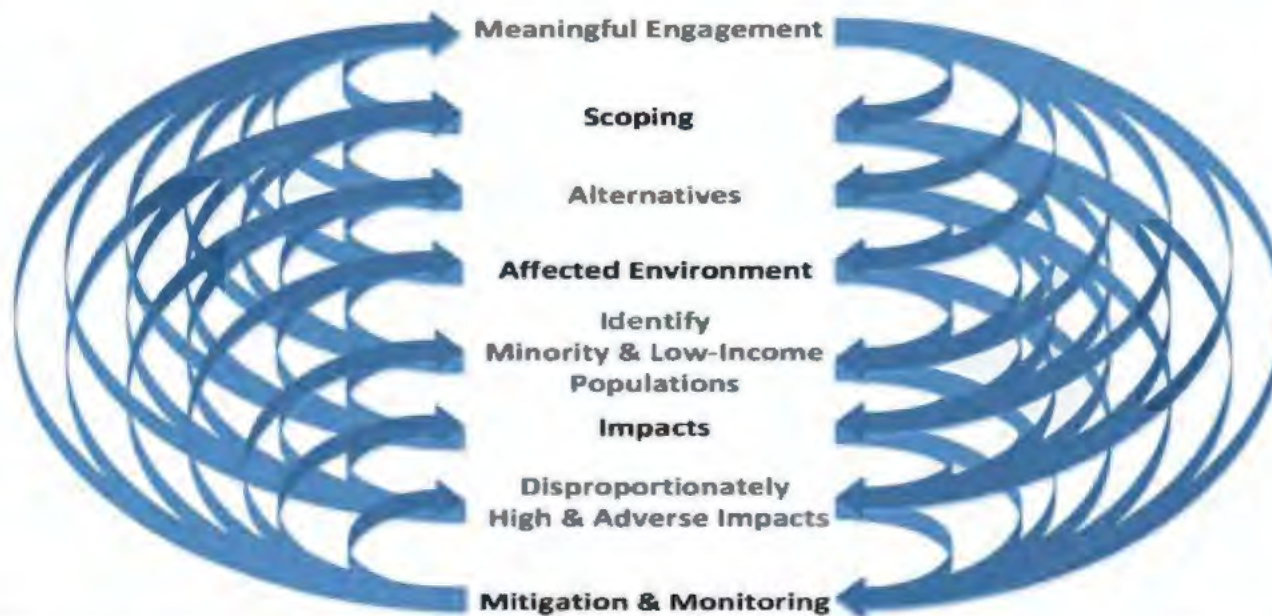


- Compilation of “promising practices” organized in coordinated, functional framework concerning interface of environmental justice considerations through NEPA processes
- Builds upon existing EJ and NEPA Guidance developed by CEQ and federal agencies
- Represents professional experience, knowledge and expertise of individuals participating in the NEPA Committee who are NEPA practitioners in federal agencies
- Captures collective thinking and thoughtful deliberation of shared information and results of research, analysis and discussions
- Joint efforts of the Committee reflect community of NEPA practitioners who seek to enable consideration of EJ within the context of NEPA
- Allows agencies to compare and improve their methodologies for considering EJ now and in the future
- **Does not establish new requirements for NEPA analysis**
- **Is not formal agency guidance**
- **Is not intended to be legally binding or create rights and benefits for any person**

Elements of the Promising Practices Report



Environmental Justice Within National Environmental Policy Act Reviews





Future & Next Steps: Implementation Collaboration, and Innovation



- Continue to promote and encourage agency-wide use of the Promising Practices Report
- Publish and promote the use of the Community Guide to Environmental Justice and NEPA Methods
- Support CEQ's efforts in implementing EO 13087



“Now that you’ve heard about the Promising Practices Report...”



- Spread the word about the Promising Practices Report and the Community Guide, i.e., training or a briefing at your agency
- Volunteer and get involved with our efforts to promote more awareness
- Continue Implementation and Collaboration at your agencies on EJ and NEPA issues
- Give feedback on the Promising Practices Report



Thank You

Denise C. Freeman

Denise.Freeman@hq.doe.gov

EPA NEPA/309 Update



NEPA/309 Survey Results

- ▶ Over 160 respondents across 43 agencies
- ▶ Feedback centered around 3 primary subject areas:
 - ▶ Quality and consistency of 309 letters
 - ▶ Value of early engagement
 - ▶ Utility of 309 Rating System



Subsequent EPA Actions

- ▶ Letter Writing Guidance to regions (August 2017)
- ▶ Increased emphasis on early engagement
- ▶ Evaluation of alternatives to current 309 Rating System





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14

CEQ075FY18150_000002676



Council on Environmental Quality



Questions?

Council on Environmental Quality

The screenshot shows the NEPA.GOV website. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Enter search request". Below the search bar is a navigation menu with the following items: HOME, LAWS & REGULATIONS, GUIDANCE, GET INVOLVED, NEPA PRACTICE, CEO PUBLICATIONS, and CEO REPORTS. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text "INFRASTRUCTURE PERMITTING IMPROVEMENTS" and a "READ MORE" button. Below the banner, there is a "Welcome" section with the following text:

Welcome

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was enacted to "declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality." (Sec. 2 [42 U.S. Code § 4321])

NEPA is our basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy, sets goals (section 101), and provides means (section 102) for carrying out the policy. Section 102 (2) contains "action forcing" provisions to make sure that federal agencies act according to the letter and spirit of the Act.

President Nixon signed NEPA into law on January 1, 1970. NEPA set forth a bold new vision for America. Acknowledging the decades of environmental neglect that had significantly degraded the nation's landscape and damaged the human environment, the law was established to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which

<https://ceq.doe.gov/index.html>



Council on Environmental Quality

FW: Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

From: "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdl)/cn=recipients/cn=a0bc62c0a5454e6fb7a1be504b7d284a-dr">

To: "Cook, Kearslyn N. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)> "Carlin, Erin A. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>

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Get a quick overview: <http://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect.html>

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- *ECCR Ten Year Report*
 - *One Federal Decision*
 - *EIS Timeline Data*
 - *CE Guidance and CE List*
- 4:05pm OMB Accountability System**
- *Accountability System –Permitting Dashboard, agency CERPO roles*
- 4:15pm Open Discussion**

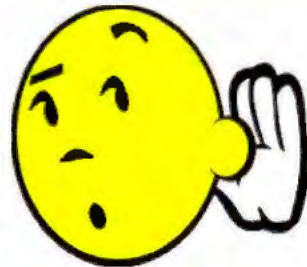
2

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Council on Environmental Quality

“Have you heard about the Promising Practices Report?”

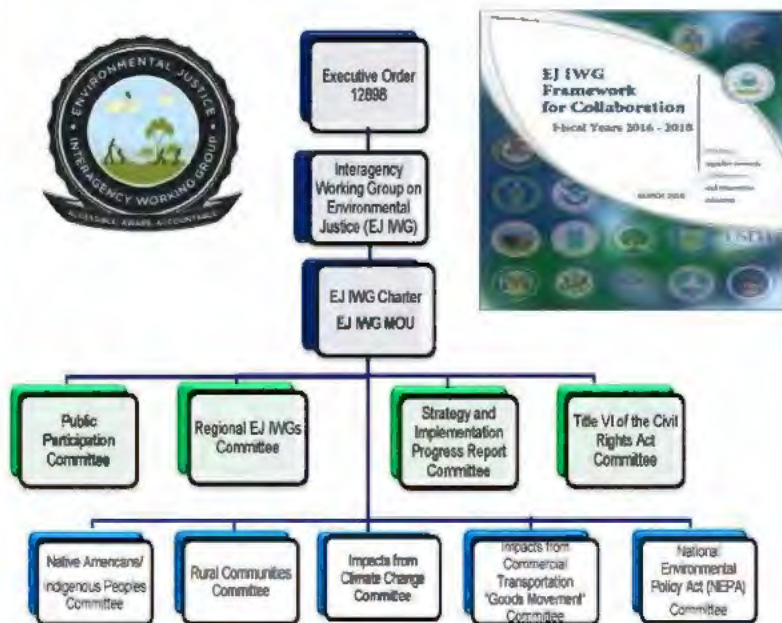


Denise C. Freeman
Co-chair, NEPA Committee
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice
CEQ Federal NEPA Contacts Webinar

EJ and NEPA Through the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice



EJ IWG Governance Structure 2016 - 2018



December 2015

Charter & MOU (2011)

NEPA Committee Purpose:

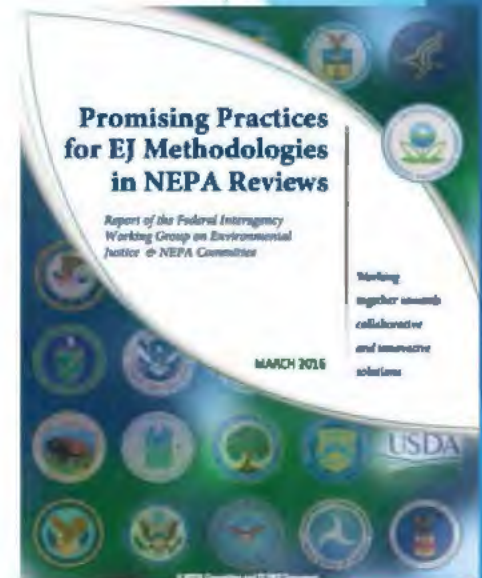
- Improve effective, efficient and consistent consideration of EJ in the NEPA process
- Share promising practices/lessons learned developed by federal government NEPA practitioners
- Provide cross agency training on EJ and NEPA



Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews Report of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice & NEPA Committee (March 2016)



- The report provides an in-depth collection of principles and practices for considering and addressing EJ issues at every step of the NEPA process and should be used in conjunction with established CEQ and NEPA Guidance.
- The NEPA Committee, comprised of Federal NEPA practitioners across the federal family, believes that all federal agencies can benefit from developing effective, efficient, and consistent approaches to addressing environmental justice in their NEPA process.
- The report is available on the EJ IWG's website:
<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-iwg-promising-practices-ej-methodologies-nepa-reviews>.



Substance: Report on Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews

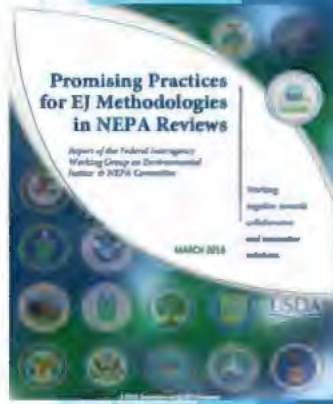


- Compilation of “promising practices” organized in coordinated, functional framework concerning interface of environmental justice considerations through NEPA processes
- Builds upon existing EJ and NEPA Guidance developed by CEQ and federal agencies
- Represents professional experience, knowledge and expertise of individuals participating in the NEPA Committee who are NEPA practitioners in federal agencies
- Captures collective thinking and thoughtful deliberation of shared information and results of research, analysis and discussions
- Joint efforts of the Committee reflect community of NEPA practitioners who seek to enable consideration of EJ within the context of NEPA
- Allows agencies to compare and improve their methodologies for considering EJ now and in the future
- **Does not establish new requirements for NEPA analysis**
- **Is not formal agency guidance**
- **Is not intended to be legally binding or create rights and benefits for any person**

Elements of the Promising Practices Report



Environmental Justice Within National Environmental Policy Act Reviews





Future & Next Steps: Implementation Collaboration, and Innovation



- Continue to promote and encourage agency-wide use of the Promising Practices Report
- Publish and promote the use of the Community Guide to Environmental Justice and NEPA Methods
- Support CEQ's efforts in implementing EO 13087

8



“Now that you’ve heard about the Promising Practices Report...”



- Spread the word about the Promising Practices Report and the Community Guide, i.e., training or a briefing at your agency
- Volunteer and get involved with our efforts to promote more awareness
- Continue Implementation and Collaboration at your agencies on EJ and NEPA issues
- Give feedback on the Promising Practices Report



Thank You

Denise C. Freeman

Denise.Freeman@hq.doe.gov

EPA NEPA/309 Update



NEPA/309 Survey Results

- ▶ Over 160 respondents across 43 agencies
- ▶ Feedback centered around 3 primary subject areas:
 - ▶ Quality and consistency of 309 letters
 - ▶ Value of early engagement
 - ▶ Utility of 309 Rating System



Subsequent EPA Actions

- ▶ Letter Writing Guidance to regions (August 2017)
- ▶ Increased emphasis on early engagement
- ▶ Evaluation of alternatives to current 309 Rating System





Agenda

Council on Environmental Quality

- 3:00pm Introduction**
- 3:05pm Update from EJ Interagency Working Group NEPA Sub-Committee**
- 3:15pm Update from EPA's Office of Federal Activities**
- 3:20pm CEQ's Review of Regulations Implementing NEPA**
- 3:55pm Updates on CEQ Initiatives**
- *ECCR Ten Year Report*
 - *One Federal Decision*
 - *EIS Timeline Data*
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- 4:05pm OMB Accountability System**
- *Accountability System –Permitting Dashboard, agency CERPO roles*
- 4:15pm Open Discussion**

14

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Council on Environmental Quality



Questions?

Council on Environmental Quality

The screenshot shows the NEPA.GOV website. At the top, there is a search bar and a navigation menu with links for HOME, LAWS & REGULATIONS, GUIDANCE, GET INVOLVED, NEPA PRACTICE, CEO PUBLICATIONS, and CEO REPORTS. The main banner features the text "INFRASTRUCTURE PERMITTING IMPROVEMENTS" with a "READ MORE" button. Below the banner, a "Welcome" section contains the following text:

Welcome

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was enacted to "declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality (Sec. 2 [42 U.S. Code § 432])."

NEPA is our basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy, sets goals (section 101), and provides means (section 102) for carrying out the policy. Section 102 (2) contains "action forcing" provisions to make sure that federal agencies act according to the letter and spirit of the Act.

President Nixon signed NEPA into law on January 1, 1970. NEPA set forth a bold new vision for America. Acknowledging the decades of environmental neglect that had significantly degraded the nation's landscape and damaged the human environment, the law was established to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which

<https://ceq.doe.gov/index.html>



Council on Environmental Quality



[3225-F8]

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508

[Docket No. CEQ-2018-0001]

RIN: 0331-AA03

Update to the Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

ACTION: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is considering updating its implementing regulations for the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Over the past four decades, CEQ has issued numerous guidance documents but has amended its regulations substantively only once. Given the length of time since its NEPA implementing regulations were issued, CEQ solicits public comment on potential revisions to update the regulations and ensure a more efficient, timely, and effective NEPA process consistent with the national environmental policy stated in NEPA.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number CEQ-2018-0001 through the Federal eRulemaking portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward A. Boling, Associate Director for the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality, 730 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20503. Telephone: (202) 395-5750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq., was enacted in 1970. NEPA states that “it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.” 42 U.S.C. § 4331(a). NEPA also established CEQ as an agency within the Executive Office of the President. 42 U.S.C. § 4342.

By Executive Order (E.O.) 11514, “Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality” (March 5, 1970), President Nixon directed CEQ in Section 3(h) to issue “guidelines to Federal agencies for the preparation of detailed statements on proposals for legislation and other Federal actions affecting the environment, as required by section 102(2)(C) of the Act.” CEQ published these guidelines in April of 1970 and revised them in 1973.

President Carter issued E.O. 11991 (May 24, 1977), “Relating to Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality,” which amended Section 3(h) of E.O. 11514 to direct CEQ to issue regulations providing uniform standards for the implementation of

NEPA, and amended Section 2 of E.O. 11514 to require agency compliance with the CEQ regulations. CEQ promulgated its “Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act” (CEQ’s NEPA regulations) at 40 CFR parts 1500-1508. 43 FR 55978 (November 29, 1978). Since that time, CEQ has amended its NEPA regulations substantively only once, to eliminate the “worst case” analysis requirement of 40 CFR 1502.22. 51 FR 15618 (April 25, 1986).

On August 15, 2017, President Trump issued E.O. 13807, “Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects.” 82 FR 40463 (August 24, 2017). Section 5(e) of E.O. 13807 directed CEQ to develop an initial list of actions to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review and authorization process. In response, CEQ published its initial list of actions pursuant to E.O. 13807 and stated that it intends to review its existing NEPA regulations in order to identify changes needed to update and clarify these regulations. 82 FR 43226 (September 14, 2017).

II. Request for Comment

CEQ requests comments on potential revisions to update and clarify CEQ NEPA regulations. In particular, CEQ requests comments on the following specific aspects of these regulations, and requests that commenters include question numbers when providing responses. Where possible, please provide specific recommendations on additions, deletions, and modifications to the text of CEQ’s NEPA regulations and their justifications.

NEPA Process:

1. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to ensure that environmental reviews and authorization decisions involving multiple agencies are conducted in a manner that is concurrent, synchronized, timely, and efficient, and if so, how?
2. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to make the NEPA process more efficient by better facilitating agency use of environmental studies, analysis, and decisions conducted in earlier Federal, State, tribal or local environmental reviews or authorization decisions, and if so, how?
3. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to ensure optimal interagency coordination of environmental reviews and authorization decisions, and if so, how?

Scope of NEPA Review:

4. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations that relate to the format and page length of NEPA documents and time limits for completion be revised, and if so, how?
5. Should CEQ's NEPA regulations be revised to provide greater clarity to ensure NEPA documents better focus on significant issues that are relevant and useful to decisionmakers and the public, and if so, how?
6. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to public involvement be revised to be more inclusive and efficient, and if so, how?
7. Should definitions of any key NEPA terms in CEQ's NEPA regulations, such as those listed below, be revised, and if so, how?
 - a. Major Federal Action;
 - b. Effects;

- c. Cumulative Impact;
 - d. Significantly;
 - e. Scope; and
 - f. Other NEPA terms.
8. Should any new definitions of key NEPA terms, such as those noted below, be added, and if so, which terms?
- a. Alternatives;
 - b. Purpose and Need;
 - c. Reasonably Foreseeable;
 - d. Trivial Violation; and
 - e. Other NEPA terms.
9. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to any of the types of documents listed below be revised, and if so, how?
- a. Notice of Intent;
 - b. Categorical Exclusions Documentation;
 - c. Environmental Assessments;
 - d. Findings of No Significant Impact;
 - e. Environmental Impact Statements;
 - f. Records of Decision; and
 - g. Supplements.
10. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to the timing of agency action be revised, and if so, how?

11. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to agency responsibility and the preparation of NEPA documents by contractors and project applicants be revised, and if so, how?
12. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to programmatic NEPA documents and tiering be revised, and if so, how?
13. Should the provisions in CEQ's NEPA regulations relating to the appropriate range of alternatives in NEPA reviews and which alternatives may be eliminated from detailed analysis be revised, and if so, how?

General:

14. Are any provisions of the CEQ's NEPA regulations currently obsolete? If so, please provide specific recommendations on whether they should be modified, rescinded, or replaced.
15. Which provisions of the CEQ's NEPA regulations can be updated to reflect new technologies that can be used to make the process more efficient?
16. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to promote coordination of environmental review and authorization decisions, such as combining NEPA analysis and other decision documents, and if so, how?
17. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the implementation of NEPA, and if so, how?
18. Are there ways in which the role of tribal governments in the NEPA process should be clarified in CEQ's NEPA regulations, and if so, how?

19. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations should be revised to ensure that agencies apply NEPA in a manner that reduces unnecessary burdens and delays as much as possible, and if so, how?

20. Are there additional ways CEQ's NEPA regulations related to mitigation should be revised, and if so, how?

(Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4332, 4342, 4344 and 40 CFR Parts 1500, 1501, 1502, 1503, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508)

III. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under E.O. 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review," 58 FR 51735 (October 4, 1993), this is a "significant regulatory action." Accordingly, CEQ submitted this action to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under E.O. 12866 and any changes made in response to OMB recommendations have been documented in the docket for this action. Because this action does not propose or impose any requirements, and instead seeks comments and suggestions for CEQ to consider in possibly developing a subsequent proposed rule, the various statutes and executive orders that normally apply to rulemaking do not apply in this case. If CEQ decides in the future to pursue a rulemaking, CEQ will address the statutes and executive orders applicable to that rulemaking at that time.

Mary B. Neumayr,

Chief of Staff, Council on Environmental Quality.

[FR Doc. 2018-13246 Filed: 6/19/2018 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/20/2018]

FW: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - Army Corps counsel comments

From: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
"Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 21 May 2018 10:23:46 -0400
Attachments: CEQ.NEPA.regs.Corps Counsel Comments May14.docx (24.79 kB)

[Army Corps counsel comments.](#)

FW: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - NOAA's comments

From: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Loyola, Mario A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)> "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Mon, 21 May 2018 10:22:37 -0400
Attachments: EO12866 Review CEQ NEPA ANPRM - NOAA 5-10-2018.docx (49.89 kB)

CEQ NEPA team,
I'm going to send over a series of emails this morning with comments from EO 12866 interagency reviewers. It is better that I send over the individual comments than take more time to compile them before sending. Here are NOAA's comments.
Chad

FW: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - USDA comments

From : "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" (b) (6) "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)> "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ"
To: <(b) (6)> "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)> "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ"
<(b) (6)> "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)"
<(b) (6)> "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ"
Date: Wed, 06 Jun 2018 22:14:34 -0400

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Re: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - USDA comments

From "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=f93a8d1dd2b4420ca81e53ff8199b780-sz">

To: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>

Date: Wed, 06 Jun 2018 22:50:44 -0400

Thanks Chad.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 6, 2018, at 10:14 PM, Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB <(b) (6)> wrote:

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(b) (5)



FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule

Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Fri Jun 08 10:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

Required Attendees:

- "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
- "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Optional Attendees:

- "Bolen, Brittany" <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
- "Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)" <schwab.justin@epa.gov>

(b) (5) [Redacted]
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When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Fri Jun 08 10:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

Required Attendees:

- "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
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- "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
- "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

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- "Bolen, Brittany" <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
- "Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)" <schwab.justin@epa.gov>

(b) (5) [Redacted]
[Redacted] . Chad

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Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Fri Jun 08 10:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

Required Attendees:

- "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
- "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

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FW: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - USDA comments

From: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Neumayr, Mary B. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 07 Jun 2018 08:53:58 -0400

(b) (5)

From: Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB
Sent: Wednesday, June 6, 2018 10:15 PM
To: Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)> Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ
<(b) (6)> Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ
<(b) (6)> Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ
<(b) (6)> Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern) <(b) (6)> Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ <(b) (6)>
Subject: FW: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - USDA comments

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Fwd: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - USDA comments

From: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
To: "Prandoni, Christopher D. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Date: Thu, 07 Jun 2018 11:06:08 -0400

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
Date: June 6, 2018 at 10:14:34 PM EDT
To: "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>, "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>, "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>, "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)> "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)> "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
Subject: FW: EO 12866 Review of CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule - USDA comments

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FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule

Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New York)

Until: Fri Jun 08 10:00:00 2018 (America/New York)

Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

Required Attendees :
"Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
"Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Optional Attendees :
"Bolen, Brittany" <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
"Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)" <schwab.justin@epa.gov>

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FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule

Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Until: Fri Jun 08 10:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

Required Attendees:

- "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
- "Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
- "Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
- "Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

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FW: FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule

Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New_York)

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Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

Required Attendees :
"Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>
"Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>
"Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>
"Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Optional Attendees :
"Bolen, Brittany" <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
"Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)" <schwab.justin@epa.gov>

From: Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB
Sent: Thursday, June 7, 2018 4:43:21 PM UTC
To: Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB; Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ; Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ; Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ; Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ; Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ; Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern); Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ
Cc: Bolen, Brittany; Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)
Subject: FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule
When: Friday, June 8, 2018 1:00 PM-2:00 PM.
Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

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FW: FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions

Prerule

Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

When: Fri Jun 08 09:00:00 2018 (America/New York)

Until: Fri Jun 08 10:00:00 2018 (America/New York)

Organiser: "Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" </o=exchange organization/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=1eab5b65831b4f7fb65d73703504e13e-wh">

"Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB" <(b) (6)>

"Seale, Viktoria Z. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

"Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Required Attendees: "Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

"Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

: "Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

"Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

"Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern)" <(b) (6)>

"Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ" <(b) (6)>

Optional Attendees: "Bolen, Brittany" <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>

: "Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)" <schwab.justin@epa.gov>

From: Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB

Sent: Thursday, June 7, 2018 4:43:21 PM UTC

To: Whiteman, Chad S. EOP/OMB; Szabo, Aaron L. EOP/CEQ; Boling, Ted A. EOP/CEQ; Drummond, Michael R. EOP/CEQ; Barnett, Steven W. EOP/CEQ; Sharp, Thomas L. EOP/CEQ; Gignoux, Caroline M. EOP/CEQ (Intern); Smith, Katherine R. EOP/CEQ

Cc: Bolen, Brittany; Justin Schwab (schwab.justin@epa.gov)

Subject: FW: EO 12866 Call on CEQ NEPA Procedural Provisions Prerule

When: Friday, June 8, 2018 1:00 PM-2:00 PM.

Where: Dial-In: (b) (6) Code: (b) (6)

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