

Implementing NEPA

Best Practices

Presented to: **FAA Consultants Workshop**

By: **SW Region Environmental Team**

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Federal Aviation
Administration



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Administration

People You Need To Know



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Timeline to Success

➤ **Early Coordination is the Key**

- Categorical Exclusions (CATEX)
 - Initiate coordination 1 year prior to funding

- Environmental Assessments (EA)
 - Initiate coordination 2 years prior to funding

- Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)
 - Initiate coordination 3 to 4 years prior to funding



Dates to Know



➤ Discretionary Funding

- [FAA Order 5050.4B, Section 303b. \(1\) and \(2\)](#)
- CEs – Submit environmental documentation by April 30th of the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the sponsor is requesting funding
- EAs- Final FAA-accepted EA submitted by April 30th of the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the sponsor is requesting funding



Dates to Know (continued)



➤ Entitlement or Discretionary Funding

- Regional Guidance Letter 001 2017 - Feb 24, 2017
- Environmental Determination Milestone – March 31st of fiscal year in which the sponsor is requesting funding
- Failure to achieve this milestone 3 consecutive grants in a row, regardless of year, will result in AIP funding delay by 1 fiscal year



Keys to Success



- **Don't start without us**
- **Let's work together from project conception to get it right (Sponsor, Consultant, PM, Engineer, Planner & EPS)**
- **Let us review the scope of work**
- **Keep FAA in the loop**
- **Keep the airport sponsor engaged**



Updates



ARP Standard Operating Procedure 5.1

- Issued June 2, 2017
- Cultural Resources Change
- Air Quality Change
- Addressing Environmental Justice
- CATEX citations from FAA Order 1050.1E to 1050.1F





Using the CATEX SOP

- [FAA Order 1050.1F](#)

- **Identify applicable CATEX in Section 5-6 of FAA Order 1050.1F**
 - Simple Written Record
 - Documented CATEX

- **Provide a clear, concise, and complete project description**



Using the CATEX SOP (continued)



➤ Documented CATEXs

- Use Appendix A in CATEX SOP
- Consider and document extraordinary circumstances
 - Talk to ADO EPS to streamline the list (if applicable)
 - Use online resources whenever possible (iPAC, NEPAassist, etc.)
 - Include relevant attachments (agency correspondence, FIRM map, T&E list, etc.)



How To Use The CE SOP (continued)



➤ Documented CATEXs

- Three required signatures and dates
 - Consultant signature
 - Sponsor certification
 - FAA signature (EPS)

➤ **FAA will not approve without dates/signatures**



Cultural Resources



- Use [Section 106 Handbook](#)
- When can consultants contact SHPO?
- When must FAA contact SHPO?
- FAA initiates tribal consultation



Noise



- Use the Environmental Desk Reference
- Use AEDT (not INM) when developing noise contours
- When can the Area Equivalent Method (AEM) be used?
 - Evaluate no-action against proposed action
 - Aircraft types and/or operations changes



Air Quality



- Use [Air Quality Handbook](#)
- Attainment vs. Non-attainment areas (NAAQS)
- FAA's Presumed to Conform list
- Attainment area operational threshold currently being revised
- Use AEDT (not EDMS) for operational emissions
- Use EPA MOVES and NONROAD models for construction emissions



Moving Forward...



- **Topics for the January conference?**
- **Questions?**



Thank You!

