Guidance for the Preparation of

Engineering Reports
and
Environmental Information Documents

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Coming Soon

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List of Acronyms

A

ADF – Average daily flow

ADFMax-Month – Monthly Maximum Flow

AMP – Asset Management Plan

B

BMP – Best management practices

BRAC – Base Relocation and Closure Act

C

CCI – Construction Cost Index

CE – Categorical Exclusion

CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

CG&L – Construction Grants and Loans Section

CIP – Capital Improvement Plan

CWSRF – Clean Water State Revolving Fund

CWSRF – GPR – Clean Water State Revolving Fund – Green Project Reserve

D

DAQ – Division of Air Quality

DCR – North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

DEH – Division of Health

DENR – North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

DMCA – Determination of Minor Construction Activity

DOA – North Carolina Department of Administration

DWQ – Division of Water Quality

E

EA – Environmental Assessment

EID – Environmental Information Document

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

EJ – Environmental justice

EPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency

ER – Engineering report

F

FEU – Facilities Evaluation Unit

FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map

FONSI – Finding of No Significant Impact

FWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

G

GIS – Geographic Information System

I

I/I – Inflow/Infiltration

IUP – Intended Use Plan

L

LGC – Local Government Commission

LGU – Local government unit

LOI – Letter of Intent

M

MCI – Municipal Cost Index

MHI – Median Household Income

N

NCAC – North Carolina Administrative Code

NCCGIA – North Carolina Center for Geographic Information Analysis

NCEMA – North Carolina Emergency Management Agency

NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act

NHP – North Carolina Natural Heritage Program

NOV – Notice of Violation

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service

NWI – National Wetlands Inventory

O

O&M – Operations and Maintenance

R

ROD – Record of Decision

S

SCH – North Carolina State Clearinghouse

SCI – Secondary and Cumulative Impacts

SDC – State Data Center

SEL – State Emergency Loan

SEPA – State Environmental Policy Act (also known as the North Carolina Environmental Policy Act)

SF3 – U.S. Census Data Summary File 3

SOC – Special Order of Consent

SRL – State Revolving Loan

SSES – Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey

SSO – Sanitary Sewer Overflow

STAG – State and Tribal Assistance Grant

T

T&E – Threatened and Endangered

U

USACE – United States Army Corps of Engineers

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

USEPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency

W

WWTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant

Glossary

A

Annual O&M – Regular O&M that occurs on a yearly basis such as power usage and chemical purchase.

Average Daily Flow – The mean of daily flows averaged across a month.

Average Monthly Flow – maximum month – The highest of the average monthly flows over a year.

C

Customer Type – Residential, commercial, and industrial customers who have water accounts within the local government unit who has sought funding from IFS.

Cumulative Impacts – Those effects that result from the project's direct impacts added together from other past, present, and future projects that can be reasonably predicted.

D

Direct Impacts – Those effects on the environment that occur at the same time and place as a project.

Dual Metering – Metering at an industry that monitors both water coming in and wastewater going out.

E

Eligible Owner – Local government units (LGU) and nonprofit water corporations. This is defined by state statute for all CG&L funding. Note: This differs from Federal CWSRF program allowances.

Environmental Assessment – A document prepared by CG&L that provides a summary of the information discussed in the EID. The EA is attached to the FONSI when it is submitted to the Clearinghouse.

Engineering Report/Environmental Information Document – A document written by the Consultant that provides information about the engineering aspects of the project on a conceptual level, its purpose and need, alternatives considered, current conditions, potential environmental impacts, and mitigative measures taken to minimize impacts.

F

Feasible alternatives – Alternatives that fulfill the project's purpose and need and could potentially be constructed regardless of the cost.

100-year Floodplain – The areas that are expected to be inundated by the 1% annual chance flood (100 year flood).

Floodway – The channel of a stream, plus any adjacent flood plain areas, that must be kept free from encroachment so that the 1% annual chance flood can be carried without substantial increases in flood heights.

H

High Unit Cost Threshold

I

Implementation Year – The first year that your project will be put into service. Should be no more than four years from the current year.
Intermittent O&M – O&M that occurs during the life cycle of the project but more infrequently than yearly such as equipment overhauls.

Infeasible Alternative – An alternative that may fulfill the project's purpose and need but would be impracticable to construct due to physical or environmental constraints.

L

Local Government Commission – The governing body that oversees the approval, sale, and delivery of substantially all North Carolina local government bonds and notes and monitors certain fiscal and accounting standards prescribed for units of local government by the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

M

Major ER/EID – An ER/EID containing more detail in the body of the report than what is found in the minor ER/ED. Additional methodologies with justification are allowed. Used for projects that are above the minimum criteria for SEPA (CWSRF-, SRL/SEL-funded projects) or NEPA (STAG-funded projects).

Maximum Day Flow – Maximum of Daily Flows for the period analyzed.

Maximum Hourly Flow – Maximum hourly flow for the period analyzed (may occur within the Maximum Day flow.

Minor ER/EID – An ER/EID consisting of tables that must be completed using the methodologies described in this guidance. Used for projects that are below the minimum criteria for SEPA (CWSRF-, SRL/SEL-funded projects) or NEPA (STAG-funded projects).

Mitigative measures – Actions taken to minimize or eliminate impacts to the environment and natural resources.

N

Need Statement – A brief description of the reason why a LGU must construct a project.

No-Action Alternative – An alternative considered during the NEPA/SEPA process where nothing is implemented.

O

Owner – The local government unit or other entity that legally owns the facilities in which the project occurs.

Original project – The scope of work that was approved in the original Engineering Report/Environmental Information Document.

P

Preferred Alternative – The alternative chosen to be implemented that best addresses the project's need and purpose. This may or may not be the alternative with the lowest total present worth.

Project Area – The area draining to the stormwater BMP (stormwater projects only). The broader area surrounding the project vicinity.

Project component – Parts of a project that make up the entire proposed project (e.g., different rehabilitation segments that constitute the entire collection system rehabilitation project).

Project vicinity – The proposed project and area immediately adjacent to the proposed project.

Proposed Project – The project that is proposed by the Owner to be constructed utilizing funding available from the Construction Grants and Loans Section.

Purpose Statement – A brief description of how the need for the project will be addressed.

R

Reclaimed Water – Water that has been used, conveyed to a WWTP, and treated to reclaimed standards.

S

Scope of impacts – The area that should be investigated to identify impacts to various resources that are included in the impact analysis.

Secondary impacts (indirect impacts) – Effects to the environment and natural resources that are more removed in time and distance from a project's construction and operation activities.

Section 212 Projects – Wastewater infrastructure projects that may be funded by the State Revolving Loan program.

Service area – The sewershed served by the collection system and/or wastewater treatment plant.

Sewershed – The area served by a collection system or portion of collection system.

Sewershed Service Area – The area of the WWTP service area that contains the project. Note that for major sewer interceptors, this may be the entire WWTP service area.

Stand-Alone Alternative – An alternative that is the only alternative considered rather than part of a combination of alternatives (e.g., optimizing existing facilities only rather than optimizing facilities and considering land application as well.)

W

WWTP Service Area – The area of the LGU served by the WWTP.

Y

Year 1 of Project Implementation – The first year that the project goes into operation.

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