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(k) Economic, population and employment factors, provided they are interrelated with natural or physical environmental factors.

§ 1216.308 Preparation of draft statements.

(a) The responsible Headquarters official shall prepare the draft environmental impact statement in the manner provided in 40 CFR part 1502 of the CEQ Regulations and shall submit the draft statement and any attachments to the Associate Administrator for Management for NASA review prior to any formal review outside NASA. This submission shall be accompanied by a list of Federal, State, and local officials (40 CFR part 1503 of the CEQ Regulations) and a list of other interested parties (40 CFR 1506.6 of the CEQ Regulations) from whom comments should be requested.

(b) After the NASA review is completed, the Associate Administrator for Management shall submit the approved draft statement to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Federal Activities, and shall seek the views of appropriate agencies and individuals in accordance with 40 CFR part 1503 and §1506.6 of the CEQ Regulations.

(c) Comments received shall be provided to the originating official for consideration in preparing the final statement. To the extent possible, requirements for review and consultation with other agencies on environmental matters established by statutes other than NEPA, such as the review and consultation requirements of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, should be met prior to or through this review process (§1216.320).

(d) The decision whether to hold public hearings shall be made by the Associate Administrator for Management in consultation with the General Counsel.

§ 1216.309 Public involvement.

(a) Interested persons can get information on NASA environmental impact statements and other aspects of NASA’s NEPA process by contacting the Assistant Associate Administrator for Facilities Engineering, Code NX, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546; 202-453-1965. Pertinent information regarding any aspect of the NEPA process may also be mailed to the above address.

(b) Responsible Headquarters officials and NASA Field Installation Directors shall identify those persons, community organizations, and environmental interest groups who may be interested or affected by the proposed NASA action and who should be involved in the NEPA process. They shall submit a list of such persons and organizations to the Associate Administrator for Management at the same time they submit:

1. A recommendation regarding a “Finding of No Significant Impact,”
2. A “Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS,”
3. A recommendation for public hearings,
4. A preliminary draft EIS,
5. A preliminary final EIS,
6. Other preliminary environmental documents (14 CFR 1216.321(d)).

(c) The Associate Administrator for Management may modify such lists referred to in paragraph (b) of this section as appropriate to ensure that NASA shall comply, to the fullest extent practicable, with 40 CFR 1506.6 of the CEQ Regulations and section 2-4(d) of Executive Order 12114.

(d) The decision whether to hold public hearings shall be made by the Associate Administrator for Management in consultation with the General Counsel.

§ 1216.310 Preparation of final statements.

(a) After conclusion of the review process with other Federal, State, and local agencies and the public, the responsible Headquarters official shall consider all suggestions, revise the statement as appropriate, and forward the proposed final statement to the EPA Office of Federal Activities, to all parties who commented, and to other interested parties in accordance with CEQ Regulations.

(b) Each draft and final statement, the supporting documentation, and the record of decision shall be available for
§ 1216.311 Record of the decision.

At the time of the decision on the proposed action, the originating Headquarters official shall consult with the Associate Administrator for Management and prepare a concise public record of the decision. (See 40 CFR 1505.2 of the CEQ Regulations.)

§ 1216.312 Timing.

(a) Environmental impact statements are drafted when the Headquarters official has determined that the statement shall be prepared. No decision to proceed to the development/construction (or implementation) phase of the proposed action (the major decision point of §1216.304(b)) shall be made by NASA until the later of the following dates (§1506.10 of the CEQ Regulations):

(1) Ninety days after publication of an EPA notice of a NASA draft EIS.

(2) Thirty days after publication of an EPA notice of a NASA final EIS.

(b) When necessary to comply with other specific statutory requirements, NASA shall consult with and obtain from EPA time periods other than those specified by the Council for timing of agency action.

§ 1216.313 Implementing and monitoring the decision.

(a) Section 1505.3 of the CEQ Regulations provides for agency monitoring to assure that mitigation measures and other commitments associated with the decision and its implementation and described in the EIS are carried out and have the intended effects.

(b) The responsible Headquarters official shall, as necessary, conduct the required monitoring and shall provide periodic reports as required by the Associate Administrator for Management.

(c) If the monitoring activity indicates that resulting environmental effects differ from those described in the current documents, the Headquarters official shall reassess the environmental impact and consult with the Associate Administrator for Management to determine the need for additional mitigation measures and whether to prepare a supplement to the EIS (see §4 of the CEQ Regulations).

§ 1216.314 Tiering.

Actions which are the subject of an environmental impact statement and which represents projects of broad scope may contain within them component actions of narrower scope, perhaps restricted to individual sites of activity or sequential stages of a mission, and which themselves may require environmental assessments and, where necessary, environmental impact statements. The CEQ Regulations provide that agencies may use “Tiering” (§1508.28 of the CEQ Regulations) of environmental impact statements to relate such broad and narrow actions. When employing tiering, Headquarters officials shall, by reference, make maximum use of environmental documentation already available, and avoid repetition.

§ 1216.315 Processing legislative environmental impact statements.

(a) Preparation of a legislative environmental impact statement shall conform to the requirements of 40 CFR 1506.8 of the CEQ Regulations. The responsible Headquarters official, in coordination with the Associate Administrator for Management, shall identify those NASA recommendations or reports on legislation that would require preparation of environmental impact statements in accordance with criteria set forth in 14 CFR 1216.305.

(b) For the purposes of this provision, “legislation” not only excludes requests for appropriations (40 CFR 1508.17 of the CEQ Regulations), but