§ 10.10 Preparation of environmental impact statements.

(a) Scoping. After determination that an environmental impact statement will be prepared and publication of the notice of intent, the Regional Administrator will initiate the scoping process in accordance with §1501.7 of the CEQ regulations.

(b) Preparation. Based on the scoping process, the Regional Administrator will begin preparation of the environmental impact statement. Detailed procedures for preparation of the environmental impact statement are provided in part 1502 of the CEQ regulations.

(c) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements. The Regional Administrator may at any time supplement a draft or final environmental impact statement. The Regional Administrator shall prepare a supplement to either the draft or final environmental impact statement when required under the criteria set forth in §1502.9(2). The Regional Administrator will prepare, circulate, and file a supplement to a statement in the same fashion (exclusive of scoping) as a draft or final statement and will introduce the supplement into their formal administrative record.

(d) Circulation of Environmental Impact Statements. The Regional Administrator shall circulate draft and final environmental impact statements as prescribed in §1502.19 of CEQ regulations. Prior to signing off on a draft or final impact statement, the Regional Administrator shall obtain the approval of the Environmental Officer and OCC.

§ 10.11 Environmental information.

Interested persons may contact the Environmental Officer or the Regional Administrator for information regarding FEMA’s compliance with NEPA.

§ 10.12 Pre-implementation actions.

(a) Decision-making. The Regional Administrator shall ensure that decisions are made in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Act and that the NEPA process is integrated into the decision-making process. Because of the diversity of FEMA, it is not feasible to describe in this part the decision-making process for each of the various FEMA programs. Proposals and actions may be initiated at any level. Similarly, review and approval authority may be exercised at various levels depending on the nature of the action, available funding, and statutory authority. FEMA offices and administrations shall provide further guidance, commensurate with their programs and organization, for integration of environmental considerations into the decision-making process. The Regional Administrator shall:

1. Consider all relevant environmental documents in evaluating proposals for Agency action;
2. Make all relevant environmental documents, comments, and responses part of the record in formal rule-making or adjudicatory proceedings;
3. Ensure that all relevant environmental documents, comments and responses accompany the proposal through existing Agency review processes;
4. Consider only those alternatives encompassed by the range of alternatives discussed in the relevant environmental documents when evaluating proposals for Agency action;

(b) Record of decision. In those cases requiring environmental impact statements, the Regional Administrator at the time of his/her decision, or if appropriate, his/her recommendation to Congress, shall prepare a concise public record of that decision. The record of decision is not intended to be an extensive, detailed document for the purpose.