§ 504.5 Environmental assessments.

(a) Every Commission action not specifically excluded under §504.4 shall be subject to an environmental assessment.

(b) A notice of intent to prepare an environmental assessment briefly describing the nature of the potential or proposed action and inviting written comments to aid in the preparation of the environmental assessment and early identification of the significant environmental issues may be published in the Federal Register. Such comments must be received by the Commission no later than ten (10) days from the date of publication of the notice in the Federal Register.

(49 FR 44415, Nov. 6, 1984, as amended at 64 FR 23549, May 3, 1999)

§ 504.6 Finding of no significant impact.

(a) If upon completion of an environmental assessment, it is determined that a potential or proposed action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment of the United States or of the global commons, a finding of no significant impact shall be prepared and notice of its availability published in the Federal Register. This document shall include the environmental assessment or a summary of it, and shall briefly present the reasons why the potential or proposed action, not otherwise excluded under §504.4, will not have a significant effect on the human environment and why, therefore, an environmental impact statement (EIS) will not be prepared.

(b) Petitions for review of a finding of no significant impact must be received by the Commission within ten (10) days from the date of publication of the notice of its availability in the Federal Register. The Commission shall review the petitions and either deny them or order prepared an EIS pursuant to §504.7. The Commission shall, within ten (10) days of receipt of the petition, serve copies of its order upon all parties who filed comments concerning the potential or proposed action or who filed petitions for review.

(64 FR 23549, May 3, 1999)

§ 504.7 Environmental impact statements.

(a) General. (1) An environmental impact statement (EIS) shall be prepared when the environmental assessment indicates that a potential or proposed action may have a significant impact upon the environment of the United States or the global commons.

(2) The EIS process will commence: