(2) Personnel actions;
(3) Administrative procurements (e.g., general supplies) and contracts for personal services;
(4) Legislative proposals originating in another agency and relating to matters not within NHTSA’s primary areas of responsibility;
(5) Project amendments (e.g., increases in costs) which have no environmental significance; and
(6) Minor agency actions that are determined by the official responsible for the actions to be of such limited scope that they clearly will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

(f) Consolidation of statements. Proposed actions (and alternatives there- to) having substantially similar environmental impacts may be covered by a single environmental review and environmental impact statement or negative declaration.

§ 520.5 Guidelines for identifying major actions significantly affecting the environment.

(a) General guidelines. The phrase, “major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment,” as used in this part, shall be construed with a view to the overall, cumulative impact of the actions, other Federal projects or actions in the area, and any further contemplated or anticipated actions. Therefore, an environmental impact statement should be prepared in any of the following situations:

(1) Proposed actions which are localized in their impact but which have a potential for significantly affecting the environment;
(2) Any proposed action which is likely to be controversial on environmental grounds;
(3) Any proposed action which has unclear but potentially significant environmental consequences.

(b) Specific guidelines. While a precise definition of environmental significance that is valid in all contexts is not possible, any of the following actions should ordinarily be considered as significantly affecting the quality of the human environment:

(1) Any matter falling under section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. 1653(f)) and section 138 of Federal-aid highway legislation (23 U.S.C. 138), requiring the use of any publicly owned land from a park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, State, or local significance as determined by the Federal, State, or local officials having jurisdiction thereof, or any land from an historic site of national, State, or local significance;
(2) Any matter falling under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470(f)), requiring consideration of the effect of the proposed action on any building included in the National Register of Historic Preservation and reasonable opportunity for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to comment on such action;
(3) Any action that is likely to affect the preservation and enhancement of sites of historical, architectural, or archaeological significance;
(4) Any action that is likely to be highly controversial regarding relocation housing;
(5) Any action that (i) divides or disrupts an established community, disrupts orderly, planned development, or is inconsistent with plans or goals that have been adopted by the community in which the project is located; or (ii) causes significantly increased congestion;
(6) Any action that (i) involves inconsistency with any Federal, State, or local law or administrative determination relating to the environment; (ii) has a significantly detrimental impact on air or water quality or on ambient noise levels for adjoining areas; (iii) involves a possibility of contamination of a public water supply system; or (iv) affects ground water, flooding, erosion, or sedimentation;
(7) Any action that may directly or indirectly result in a significant increase in noise levels, either within a motor vehicle’s closed environment or upon nearby areas;
(8) Any action that may directly or indirectly result in a significant increase in the energy or fuel necessary to operate a motor vehicle, including but not limited to the following: (i) Actions which may directly or indirectly result in a significant increase in the
§ 520.21 Preparation of environmental reviews, negative declarations, and notices of intent.

(a) General responsibilities—(1) Associate Administrators and Chief Counsel. Each Associate Administrator and the Chief Counsel is responsible for determining, in accordance with Subpart A, whether the projects and activities under his jurisdiction require an environmental review, and for preparing all such reviews, negative declarations, and notices of intent.

(2) Regional Administrators. Each Regional Administrator, in consultation with the Governor’s Representative, is