

Key components of the NEPA process

Assessment of Environmental Issues

NEPA requires a balanced consideration of the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of a proposed action and its alternatives on the environment. Potential measures to avoid, minimize or otherwise mitigate adverse environmental effects must also be considered.

Interagency Coordination

The NEPA process includes requirements for interagency coordination and cooperation. The lead agencies work cooperatively with other federal and state agencies during the environmental review process.

Public Involvement

Public participation in the NEPA process will improve acceptance of the final decision and, at a minimum, provide information to make an informed decision. The amount and type of public involvement will vary depending on the complexity of the project. Elements include:

- Scoping meetings and public hearings.
- Early and continuing opportunities for the public to be involved in the identification of social, economic, and environmental impacts, as well as impacts associated with the relocation of individuals, groups, or institutions.
- Reasonable notice to the public of public information meetings and the opportunity for a public hearing.



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