

## Part 610 – National Environmental Compliance Handbook

### Subpart H – Exhibits

#### 610.132 NEPA Supplementation Review and Documentation Checklist

(See section 610.133 for a completed example)

In order to ensure that the proposed action and the existing environmental assessment or environmental impact statement is still valid, the following checklist documents whether circumstances and environmental conditions have changed to the extent that a supplemental EA or EIS should be prepared for the proposed action. **If the EA or EIS is associated with a watershed project plan, follow the guidance in Title 390, National Watershed Program Manual (NWPM), Part 503, and Title 390, National Watershed Program Handbook (NWPH), Part 603).**

Specifically, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that supplements to existing EA or EIS documents be prepared if the agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns, or there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns that have bearing on the proposed action or its impacts.

This checklist should be retained with the file to document that the agency assessed the need for a supplemental EA or EIS. In following the Council on Environmental Quality's Forty Most Asked Questions guidance on implementing NEPA (Question # 32), the following checklist is applicable for use by all projects with an environmental analysis that is more than 5 years old.

#### **New Information/Change in Existing Conditions and Need for Supplementation**

For each question below, provide a yes or no response with a short explanation or citation that supports the response.

**1) Have substantial changes in the proposed action been made that were not fully considered in the initial environmental analysis?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**2) Have project conditions or information changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential for significant adverse effects on public health or safety?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**3) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased significant adverse effects on such natural resources and unique**

**geographic characteristics** as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (Executive Order 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas under Federal ownership or jurisdiction?

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**4) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential for highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E))?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**5) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential for highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? Example: Dam classification and engineering has changed to require the dam to be classified as a high-hazard dam.**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**6) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential for setting a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**7) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed**

**action may have increased the potential to result in actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**8) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that there is an increased potential for effects on historic properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the NRCS State office after consultation with the State historic preservation officer, appropriate federally recognized American Indian Tribes, appropriate Tribal historic preservation officers, or other appropriate consulting parties that the State office identifies, in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 as implemented by 36 CFR Part 800?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**9) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that there is an increased potential for effects to species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species under the Endangered Species Act, or have the potential for effects on designated critical habitat for these species?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**10) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential for violating a Federal, State, local, or Tribal law, or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**11) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential for disproportionately high and adverse effect on low-**

**income or minority populations** (Executive Order 12898)?

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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**12) Have project conditions or information on the proposed project changed such that the proposed action may have increased the potential to contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or nonnative invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?**

Yes or No

Describe extent and magnitude of change:

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The RFO is to check below the appropriate response on whether or not a supplemental EA or EIS is warranted based on the review above.

**Based on the responses provided above, I find that:**

- a) Substantial changes in the proposed action **have not** been made or the potential effects and information on the proposed action **have not** significantly changed such that a supplemental EA or EIS needs to be prepared, and there is no new information having a bearing on environmental effects or environmental conditions to the degree that necessitates the preparation of a supplemental EA or EIS.
- b) Substantial changes in the proposed action **have** been made, or the potential effects or information on the proposed action **have** significantly changed such that a supplemental EA or EIS needs to be prepared, or there is new information having a bearing on environmental effects or environmental conditions that necessitates the preparation of a supplemental EA or EIS.

Justification for the determination:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Responsible Federal Official

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Date