

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY INSTALLATIONS, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT 110 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-0110

24 March 2020

SAIE-ESO

#### MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Interim Army Procedures for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- 1. This memorandum establishes interim Army NEPA procedures in consideration of the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency. These interim NEPA procedures are applicable to all Army NEPA proponents responsible for NEPA compliance.
- 2. Army NEPA proponents will implement public involvement in Army NEPA actions in accordance with these interim procedures:
- a. Until further notice, NEPA public meetings will be transitioned to virtual meetings, postponed, or cancelled, as deemed appropriate by the Army NEPA proponent.
- b. Alternative means of public engagement will be implemented and documented in public participation plans. Virtual meetings may be conducted using online meeting / collaboration tools, tele-conference, social media, or email, as appropriate.
- c. NEPA public and Federal Register notices will inform the public about these alternative participation procedures and how to obtain NEPA materials on the project web site or through the mail. Public notices will provide a contact phone number, email, web site address, and mailing address.
- d. Project information, including, but not limited to, scoping materials, draft NEPA documents, and comment forms will be available on project websites. This includes materials normally presented at public meetings.
- e. Project information, including, but not limited to, scoping materials, draft NEPA documents, and comment forms will be sent through the mail as either hard copies or as printable compact discs (as requested). Mailed materials will include requested materials normally presented at public meetings and materials on the project website.
- f. Army NEPA proponents will ensure cooperating agencies are aware of these NEPA alternative participation procedures.
- 3. These interim Army procedures for NEPA are effective as of the date of this memorandum, and will remain in effect until rescinded in writing by this office. These interim procedures do not apply to the use of categorical exclusions and associated Records of Environmental Consideration. These interim procedures do not apply to Civil Works functions of the US Army Corps of Engineers.

4. Point of contact for question on these procedures is Lorri Schwartz, (571) 363-7511, email: lorri.a.schwartz.civ@mail.mil.

AMY L. BORNAN

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army Environment, Safety and Occupational Health

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SUBJECT: Interim Army Procedures for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Army National Guard Chief, Army Reserve Commandant, U.S. Army War College

CF:

Director of Business Transformation Commander, Eighth Army