



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands

Overview of the Environmental Assessment (E.A.) Revisions

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Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

Purpose and Goals

- Revisions effective 7/1/2017
- Provide overview of revisions
- Basic understanding of revisions
- Answer questions, time permitting

Items of Importance

- Two page E.A. Form must be completed (e.g. questions answered) and signed.
- E.A. Form only displays a summary of each Module (e.g. letter sections).

Items of Importance

- E.A. Instructions (16 pages plus appendices) contain significant additional information and detail than the form does.
- The organizational structure, format and labeling must be followed to avoid delays in processing.

E.A. Overview

- New Format
 - Module 1 – Project Summary
 - Module 2 – Resource Identification and Characterization
 - Module 3 – Identification and Description of Potential Project Impacts
 - Module 4 – Mitigation Plan

Module 1 Project Summary

■ **Module 1 – Project Summary**

This module presents an overall summary of the project scope, certain key information requirements and when applicable, a comprehensive view of the overall project and related projects (e.g. CEA Policy)

Module 1 Project Summary

CHAPTER 105 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM

Item
Included Location

Note: The Department may waive a specific information requirement in writing, at the request of the Applicant, during the pre-application review process if the Department determines the information is not necessary to complete the review.

Module S1: Project Summary

This module is intended to organize information in order to present an overall summary of the project scope, certain key information requirements and when applicable, a comprehensive view of the overall project and related projects.

A. Provide an overall project description and If the answer to the question below is **YES**, address CEA requirements; otherwise proceed to **S1.B** Comprehensive Environmental Assessment (CEA) when applicable. Answer the following question:

Does the "overall" project require more than one Ch. 105 permit in more than one county or will the project be completed in more than one phase?

 Yes

 No

B. Provide information related to the project purpose, need, water dependency and summarize the amount and type of resources present and the temporary and permanent impacts proposed to those resources.



Module 1 Project Summary

- Significant Components
 - Incorporates CEA, when applicable
 - Project purpose, need and water dependency
 - Summary of resources present and resource impacts

▶ Module 2 Resource Id & Charac.

▪ **Module 2 – Resource Identification and Characterization**

This module organizes information related to the identification of the resources present on the project site and to characterize those resources that may be affected by the proposed project.

Module 2 Resource Id & Charac.

Module S2: Resource Identification and Characterization

This module is intended to organize information related to the identification of the resources present on the project site and to characterize those resources that may be affected by the proposed project.

A. Provide the standard resource identification information, location map, wetland determination or delineation reports; watercourse reports; identification and qualifications of preparers; location map, and answer the related questions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the site located within or adjacent to any of the following; or within 100 feet of items vii or viii?		
i. National, state or local park, forest or recreation area	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
ii. National natural landmark	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
iii. National wildlife refuge, or Federal, state, local or private wildlife or plant sanctuaries	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
iv. State Game Lands	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
v. Areas identified as prime farmland	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
vi. Source for a public water supply	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
vii. A National Wild or Scenic River or the Commonwealth's Scenic Rivers System	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
viii. Designated Federal wilderness area	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
B. Identify all aquatic resources present on the project site and provide an identifier, the resource type; size of the resource(s); fishery designations, Ch. 93 uses and special protection status; and Exceptional Value (EV) wetland analysis.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
C. Provide the following information related to habitat for Federal threatened and endangered (T&E) plant and animal species or State T&E species or species of special concern - copies of search forms or search receipts; identification of avoidance and minimization efforts taken to resolve identified conflicts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Did the PNDI search or agency coordination identify any potential conflicts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If the above is answered YES ; answer the following two questions related to PNDI Coordination:		
a. Is the applicant utilizing a sequential review of the PNDI coordination?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
b. Is the applicant utilizing a concurrent review of the PNDI coordination?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
D. Characterize the aquatic resources: riverine, wetland and lacustrine present on the project site that are proposed to be directly or indirectly affected by the project. Including but not limited to the following, resource classification information, Level 2 rapid condition assessment results, discussion of resource functions, characterization of riparian properties and any other relevant information or studies conducted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Module 2 Resource Id & Charac.

- Significant Components
 - Resource identification reports, data, etc.
 - Preparer qualifications
 - Standard resource questions (i.e. Near National, state or local park, wilderness area, etc.)
 - Identify all aquatic resources on site

Module 2 Resource Id & Charac.

- Significant Components
 - Threatened & Endangered Species (i.e. DEP Policy questions, PNDI search receipts, coordination, etc.)
 - Characterize resources proposed to be affected (e.g. L2RAPs)

▶ Module 3 Id.& Desc. of Impacts

■ **Module 3 – Identification and Description of Potential Project Impacts**

This module organizes information concerning potential impacts or effects of the proposed project. Impacts related to the "overall" project proposed under related but separate application(s) should be addressed as part of the CEA Policy response included as part of each application.

Module 3 Id.& Desc. of Impacts

Module S3: Identification and Description of Potential Project Impacts		
<i>This module is intended to organize and present information concerning the potential impacts or effects of the proposed project in this application. Impacts related to the "over all" project that are proposed under related but separate application(s) should be addressed as part of the CEA Policy response under S1.A.</i>		
A. Provide a summary table of the proposed temporary and permanent direct and indirect impacts for <u>each</u> effected resource category (e.g. riverine, wetlands and lacustrine resources).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. If any questions from S2.A Standard Information Response questions were answered YES, discuss in detail any potential impacts to those resource(s).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IMPORTANT NOTE: If either item vii or viii from S2.A is answered YES, the project is not eligible as a "Small Project Application" type. Complete all applicable sections of the EA form for the standard application type unless an item was otherwise waived by the Department in writing (see previous Note on waiving of information requirements).		<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Provide a table(s) of all proposed water obstruction(s), encroachment activities and dams (e.g. subfacility codes) and provide an identifier, the subfacility code and description, resource identifier from S2.B , latitude and longitude, the proposed temporary and permanent direct and indirect impacts and subfacility details.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Provide a discussion of how the proposed subfacility(ies) individually and in combination directly and/or indirectly impact the identified resource(s) and the effects on the applicable resource functions: hydrologic, biogeochemical, habitat, recreation, any other environmental impacts and the effects on the property or riparian rights of owners upstream, downstream or adjacent to the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Antidegradation Analysis - The applicant should demonstrate consistency with State antidegradation requirements as described in the Water Quality Antidegradation Implementation Guidance Policy Document Number 391-0300-002. Project application information provided below in S3.F, G and H may be cross-referenced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Alternatives Analysis - The scope and extent of this analysis should be commensurate with the size and scope of the proposed project impacts <i>in this</i> application, information provided in S4.A below, related to avoidance and minimization efforts, may be cross-referenced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G. Potential Secondary Impact Evaluation - Identify and describe environmental impacts on adjacent land and water resources associated with but not that direct result of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
H. Identify and evaluate the potential cumulative environmental impacts of this project and other potential or existing projects like it, and the impacts that may result through numerous piecemeal changes to the wetland resource.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Module 3 Id.& Desc. of Impacts

- Significant Components
 - Summary Table of Impacts
 - Responses to S2 Standard Questions, when applicable
 - Subfacility Data in standardized templates
 - Subfacility Impact discussion
 - Antidegradation Analysis, when applicable

Module 3 Id.& Desc. of Impacts

- Significant Components
 - Alternatives Analysis
 - Potential Secondary Impact Discussion
 - Identification and evaluation of cumulative impacts

Module 4 Mitigation Plan

■ **Module 4 – Mitigation Plan**

This module organizes information concerning actions undertaken in accordance with the definition of Mitigation in Title 25 Pa. Code Chapter 105- 105.1, 105.16, 105.18a(a)(3), 105.18a(b)(7), 105.20a, and 105.21 as related to the potential impacts or effects of the proposed project.

Module 4 Mitigation Plan

Module S4: Mitigation Plan

*This module is intended to organize and present information concerning actions undertaken in accordance with the definition of **Mitigation** in Title 25 Pa. Code Chapter 105 - §105.1, 105.16, 105.18a(a)(3), 105.18a(b)(7), 105.20a, and 105.21 as related to the potential impacts or effects of the proposed project **in this** application.*

A. Identify and discuss any measures taken that resulted in avoiding or minimizing unavoidable resource impacts, provide detailed responses for individual proposed impact area(s) and the project as a whole.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Identify and discuss any repair, rehabilitation or restorative actions taken to rectify an impacted resource, provide detailed responses for individual proposed impact area(s) and the project as a whole. Identify and discuss any proposed preservation and maintenance operations that will be taken to reduce or eliminate an impact during the life of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Identify and discuss any actions undertaken to provide compensatory mitigation including the purchase of credits from an approved provider, a detailed discussion of proposed compensation actions and how they will offset the lost resource functions. Provide detailed plans including performance standards and success criteria.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Answer the following question. If the answer to the question is YES , provide the information regarding the mitigation credit provider; otherwise provide a detailed mitigation plan. If the application proposes to utilize both mitigation bank credits and conduct permittee responsible mitigation; both the credit provider and mitigation plan information shall be submitted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the applicant propose to utilize an approved mitigation bank to provide all or a portion of the compensation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
D. When applicable, provide a plan to monitor the identified actions proposed in S4.B and/or S4.C compensatory mitigation area. Applicants should utilize the Department's Design Criteria and the USACE's RGL 08-03 -(http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/RGLS/rgl08_03.pdf) to develop monitoring plans for compensatory mitigation proposals. The plan should include performance standards/success criteria, duration and timeframes of monitoring, monitoring report template, and template remedial action or adaptive management plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Note: All or portions of this Module may apply to "Small Project" type applications under case specific circumstances and should be discussed during any pre-application meetings or prior to application submittal.		<input type="checkbox"/>

Module 4 Mitigation Plan

- Significant Components
 - Discuss avoidance and minimization efforts for subfacility impacts and overall project
 - Discuss repair and restorative efforts for subfacility impacts and overall project
 - Discuss compensatory mitigation efforts, including if mitigation bank credits will be used.

Module 4 Mitigation Plan

- Significant Components
 - Compensation mitigation plan, when applicable
 - Monitoring Plan – Applies to both Repair/rehabilitation and compensatory actions, when applicable.

Small Project Applications

- **The following portions of the E.A. apply:**
 - Module S1 – All information requested; and
 - Module S2* - A, B, C; and
 - Module S3* - A, B, C; and
 - Module S4* - None.

*Portions of the following Modules and Sections: S2.D; S3.D, E, F, G, H; S4.A, B, C and D may apply if deemed necessary for review of the application on a case by case basis.



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Questions?

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