

**MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDING
Environmental Compliance Checklist**

Background

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended (Public Law 91-190), protects public health, safety, and environmental quality by ensuring transparency, accountability, and public involvement in federal actions in the use of public funds. NEPA generally requires federal agencies to consider, document, and disclose the reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts of any proposed action and associated alternatives. Grants of federal funds typically implicate NEPA duties. To comply with NEPA, the Maritime Administration is required to complete environmental analyses prior to awarding grants.

The Maritime Administration has adopted formal NEPA implementing procedures. Among other things, these procedures will be used to determine whether a proposed action is categorically excluded or whether further environmental documentation will be necessary. Applicants are required to complete the following checklist as part of the Maritime Administration's NEPA analysis.

Environmental Compliance Checklist for Programs

The purpose of this checklist is to assist the Maritime Administration Grant Coordinator in determining what applicable environmental documentation is necessary under the Maritime Administration's Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts (MAO 600-1) for proposed grant applications.

Many questions require a "yes" or "no" response. Please provide detailed description for responses and attach all necessary supporting documentation. Applicants should use the space provided to answer the questions. If the applicant needs additional space, additional pages may be attached to the questionnaire, indicating which question is being continued.

By answering the questions in this checklist, the Grant Coordinator can determine whether the award of the grant is categorically excluded from NEPA analysis, or whether further environmental documentation is required. This information is deemed necessary by the Maritime Administration in order to facilitate and complete its review of the application. If such information is not provided, the Maritime Administration may deem the application incomplete and cease processing it.

1. Provide a brief description of the proposed activity, including the grant/award recipient, geographical location, and scope of the project.

RESPONSE:

The Twin Parish Port District (Port), as grant recipient, proposes the construction of landside paint and blast buildings, each 120' x 170', on existing industrial property, crane pad, extension of bulkheading, shore protection, and restoration of vessel docks. The project is located in Delcambre, Louisiana, at 29.933333, -91.966667, 29.943392, -91.982342, 29.947986, -91.983236.

2. Describe the purpose and need of the proposed activity. If the proposal is a continuation of an on-going project, fully explain any changes in the purpose and need in relation to information gathered in previous years.

RESPONSE:

The purpose of the project is to add capacity to the movement of fabricated materials at the Port. The region is depressed and in need of good paying jobs. It will generate over 400 jobs over next five years.

3. Has any National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or other environmental compliance documentation (e.g., Endangered Species Act Biological Opinion; Letter of Concurrence or Biological Assessment/Evaluation; Clean Water Act permit; State Historic Preservation Officer consultation; state environmental compliance documentation) been completed? If yes, list the environmental compliance documentation that has been completed and provide copies of the documentation as appropriate.

RESPONSE:

No.

4. Is a state environmental policy act compliance document required? If yes, state when this document was completed or will be completed and identify who is preparing the document. Copies will need to be provided, as necessary.

RESPONSE:

No.

5. Would the proposed activity or environmental impacts of the activity be highly controversial? If yes, describe the potential controversy.

RESPONSE:

No.

6. Would the proposed activity have potential environmental impacts that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks? If yes, describe the impacts that are uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

RESPONSE:

No.

7. Is the proposed activity related to other activities that together may cumulatively adversely impact the environment? For example, the proposed activity is one of a series of projects that together may cause a change in the pattern of pollutant discharge, traffic generation, economic change, flood plain change, or land use. If yes, briefly describe the other activities and discuss how the related projects would have cumulative impacts on the environment.

RESPONSE:

No.

8. Would the proposed activity involve dredging, excavation, or placement of fill? If yes, describe the activity and how it will be conducted.

RESPONSE:

Yes. An inland slip used for offloading industrial structures has silted in and requires dredging to maintain use of the facility. Vessel docks require dredging prior to dock reconstruction and to relieve heavy siltation that prevents commercial shrimp boats from utilizing the dockage.

The material will be removed by a bucket dredge and placed on adjoining property for beneficial use.

9. Would the proposed activity occur within a unique geographic area of notable recreational, ecological, scientific, cultural, historical, scenic, or aesthetic importance? If yes, describe the area, including the name or designation, if known.

RESPONSE:

No.

10. Would the proposed activity affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources? If yes, describe the impact. Explain whether and how it was determined if any of those properties had the potential to be impacted within the affected area.

RESPONSE:

No.

11. Will this action affect a species listed or proposed to be listed as Endangered or Threatened?

RESPONSE:

No.

12. List any federal, state, or local permits, authorizations, or waivers that would be required to complete the proposed activity. Provide the date the permit, authorization, or waiver was obtained or will be obtained. Provide copies of the permit, authorization, or waiver as appropriate. Was a NEPA analysis prepared for the permit, authorization, or waiver? If yes, state the title of the NEPA analysis and provide copies of the NEPA analysis.

RESPONSE:

State of Louisiana Coastal Use Permit and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Category I of Programmatic General Permit or such other permits may be required.

13. Is there the potential for the proposed activity to cause changes that would be different from normal ambient conditions (e.g., temperature, light, turbidity, noise, other human activity levels, etc.)? If yes, describe the changes and the circumstances that would cause these changes.

RESPONSE:

No.

14. Is there potential for any foreign substance (e.g., chemicals, antibiotics, pathogens, etc.) to be introduced into the environment? If yes, describe the foreign substance; how the foreign substance is being used; why the substance is being used; and measures that will be taken to prevent or limit its introduction into the environment.

RESPONSE:

No.

15. Would the proposed activity involve the risk of human or environmental exposure to toxic or hazardous substances? If yes, describe the substance; how the substance is being used; why the substance is being used; the risk of human or environmental exposure; and measures that will be taken to prevent or limit human or environmental exposure.

RESPONSE:

No.

16. Would the proposed activity affect public health or safety (e.g., change to water supply, change to water table, wastewater disposal, etc.)? The effects may be adverse or beneficial and temporary, long-term, or permanent. If yes, describe the effects and the circumstances that would cause these impacts.

RESPONSE:

No.

17. Would the proposed activity change stormwater flow, air quality, noise levels, or traffic patterns? The changes may be adverse or beneficial and temporary, long-term, or permanent. If yes, describe the changes and the circumstances that would cause these changes.

RESPONSE:

No.

18. Would the proposed activity result in changing the use of park lands, prime farmland, and/or floodplains? The changes may be adverse or beneficial and temporary, long-term, or permanent. If yes, describe the changes and the circumstances that would cause these changes.

RESPONSE:

No.

19. Would the proposed activity have social or economic impacts? The impacts may be adverse or beneficial and temporary, long-term, or permanent. If yes, describe the impacts and the circumstances that would cause these changes.

RESPONSE:

Yes. The changes will add employment and activity to the area including truck, vessel, and materials handling activities. The added industrial fabrication capacity will increase the level of activity.

20. Would the proposed activity cause an existing habitat (terrestrial or aquatic) to be altered (e.g., tidal flow, sediments, water depth, water quality, turbidity, current, temperature, etc.)? The changes may be adverse or beneficial and temporary, long-term, or permanent. If yes, describe the potential changes and the circumstances that would cause these changes. Discuss if these changes extend beyond the immediate project area.

RESPONSE:

No.