

FTA REGION 8 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION WORKSHEET

FTA Region 8 provides this Categorical Exclusion (CE) worksheet to help project sponsors (recipients) comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The information collected will help to better define the project scope for environmental analysis, identify potential impacts, and determine if other environmental laws and permits apply. If sufficiently completed, it can enable FTA to determine that the project does not result in significant environmental impacts and meets the criteria for a CE. All activities and projects to be supported with federal funds require a NEPA environmental finding as a prerequisite to award of funds.

This CE Worksheet should be completed for C-List projects involving construction and *all* D-List projects. **If a C-List project does not involve construction, you do not need to complete this worksheet.** All parts below must be completed prior to FTA review. Compliance with other environmental requirements must also be completed before FTA will issue a determination that the project meets the criteria for a CE. Certain project activities may not begin until this process is complete. For guidance on completing this worksheet, please refer to the CE Worksheet Instructions.

Prior to transmitting a grant application, complete and submit this CE Worksheet using the CE Worksheet Instructions allowing sufficient time for FTA review, especially if other environmental laws or permits apply. For assistance, please contact your assigned FTA Region 8 Pre-Award Manager, or you may call the office at 303-362-2400. To “check” a box, double-click on the box and select “checked” under default value.

PART A: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Sponsor	FTA Application No/FAIN
Project Contact (include mailing address, email address and phone number)	
Project Title	
Project Description	
Project Location (Include physical address)	
Is this project included in the current approved TIP and/or STIP? <input type="checkbox"/> YES – TIP/STIP ID/Page No.: <input type="checkbox"/> NO – When will it be added?	
Is this a re-evaluation of a project previously evaluated/approved or currently under construction? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES	

PART B: PROPOSED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Select the CE category under 23 CFR 771.118(c) or (d) that best describes the proposed project (select only one). FHWA and FRA CEs also may be used, if applicable. CE descriptions are included in the CE Worksheet Instructions.

CE (e.g., C-9 or D-6):

PART C: ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

For each of the following resources, identify, evaluate and describe any adverse impacts to the built (including social and economic) and natural environment resulting from the proposed project. Select NO, if a resource is not present on or near the proposed project area, or if there are no adverse impacts. Select YES, if a resource is present and will be impacted; and succinctly describe the impacts, any mitigation necessary to minimize impacts, and any permits required. Please explain your answer. The level of detail you provide should be commensurate with the complexity of the project. For guidance on how to evaluate each resource for impacts, see the CE Worksheet Instructions. If, through your evaluation, you believe the project *will* result in significant environmental impacts or you aren't sure, and/or it is likely to generate substantial controversy on environmental grounds, contact FTA Region 8.

1. Land Use and Zoning

Is the proposed project incompatible or inconsistent with existing or future land use and/or zoning in the project area? Describe the surrounding land use and zoning. Provide a map with project location and surrounding land uses.

NO

YES

2. Land/Property Acquisition, Relocation, Leases and Easements

Does the proposed project require any land/property acquisition, easement or permit? Note: for acquisitions over \$1 million, FTA concurrence with the property's valuation is also required (see Circular 5010.E). Explain.

NO

YES

3. Environmental Justice

Is the proposed project located in a neighborhood containing minority or low-income residents or businesses? If yes, will it result in disproportionately high and adverse impacts? Explain.

NO

YES

4. Cultural, Historic and Archaeological Resources

Are there any cultural, historic or archaeological resources on or near the proposed project site? If yes and the proposed project has the potential to affect such resources, the Section 106 process must be followed and a Section 4(f) evaluation may be required. Explain, including what steps were taken to make the determination.

NO

YES

If YES resources are present, does Section 106 apply? Explain.

NO

YES – Provide Section 106 Consultation Documentation

If YES resources are present, does Section 4(f) apply? Explain.

NO

YES – Provide Section 4(f) Evaluation

5. Visual/Aesthetics

Will the proposed project degrade the existing visual/aesthetic character or quality of the site, its surroundings, and/or recognized view sheds? Explain.

NO

YES

6. Park and Recreation Resources

Are there any public parks and/or recreation resources on or near the proposed project area that would be impacted? If the proposed project has the potential to impact publicly-owned parks or recreation areas, a Section 4(f) evaluation may be required. If a park is funded with LWCF funds, Section 6(f) may apply. Explain.

NO

YES

If YES, does Section 4(f) apply? Explain.

NO

YES – Provide Section 4(f) Evaluation

If YES, does Section 6(f) apply? Explain.

NO

YES – Provide documentation

7. Noise and Vibration

Are there any noise and/or vibration sensitive receptors located near the proposed project that would be impacted? Explain.

NO

YES

8. Air Quality

Is the proposed project located in an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-designated non-attainment or maintenance area?

NO

YES - indicate the criteria pollutant and contact FTA to determine if a hot spot analysis is necessary.

- Carbon Monoxide (CO)
- Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)
- Lead (Pb)
- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)
- Ozone (O₃)
- Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)
- Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

Does the proposed project require a conformity analysis or regional analysis under 40 CFR Part 93?

NO

YES

If the non-attainment area is also in a metropolitan area, is the proposed project required to be and included in the MPO's air quality conformity analysis for the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?

NO

YES - Date of FHWA/FTA conformity finding

9. Hazardous Materials

Is there any known or potential contamination at the proposed project site that would be impacted? Describe the steps taken to make the determination (Phase I ESA, etc.) and results. Note the mitigation and clean-up measures that will be taken to remove hazardous materials from the project site, if applicable.

NO

YES

10. Farmland

Are there any prime or unique farmlands located at the proposed project site that would be impacted? Explain.

NO

YES

11. Floodplains

Is the proposed project located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year floodplain or within the floodway? If yes, this project may require further evaluation under EO 11988. Explain.

NO

YES

12. Water Resources and Water Quality

Are there any surface or ground water resources present, including an EPA-designated sole source aquifer (SSA), near the proposed project that would be impacted? Explain.

- NO
- YES

Is there an increase in impervious surface (e.g., roofs, driveways, streets, parking lots, etc.) or restored pervious surface greater than one acre? If YES, a NPDES/storm water permit may be needed and must be acquired prior to construction. Explain.

- NO
- YES

13. Wetlands and Waters of the U.S.

Are there any wetlands or waters of the U.S. on or adjacent to the proposed project area that would be temporarily or permanently impacted? Explain.

- NO
- YES

If YES, is a permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers required? Explain.

- NO
- YES

14. Threatened and/or Endangered Species

Are there any listed threatened and/or endangered species (plant or animal) or critical habitat present on or near the proposed project area that would be impacted? How was this determined? If yes, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act may apply. Explain.

- NO
- YES

15. Natural and Biological Resources

Are there any natural areas, biological resources (fish, birds, wildlife and habitat) or sensitive areas present on or near the proposed project area that would be impacted? If the proposed project has the potential to impact wildlife or waterfowl refuges, a Section 4(f) evaluation may be required. Explain.

- NO
- YES

If YES, does Section 4(f) apply? Explain.

- NO
- YES – Provide Section 4(f) Evaluation

<p>16. Traffic and Parking Does the proposed project have the potential to permanently impact traffic and/or parking (on and off street) in the project area? Explain.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p>17. Utilities Are there any utilities that could be impacted by the proposed project? Explain.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p>18. Construction Impacts Will the proposed project result in impacts (e.g., noise, air, water, staging, parking, traffic detours, etc.) during construction? Explain.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES – Provide mitigation commitments</p>
<p>19. Public Outreach and Agency Coordination Was any public outreach and/or agency coordination conducted? Explain.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p>20. Safety and Security Are any measures required for the safe and secure operation of the proposed project after its construction? Explain.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p>21. State and Local Permits, Policies and Ordinances Does the proposed project require compliance with any applicable state and local permits, policies and ordinances? Explain.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>

WORKSHEET COMPLETED BY (RECIPIENT NAME AND TITLE):

DATE SUBMITTED:

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Note: CE Worksheet must be signed by the Recipient of Funds