

Environmental Study Process

Consideration of a Proposed Action under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA requires that the FAA evaluate the environmental and related social and economic effects of a proposed action.

Preliminary Technical Review

FAA conducts an internal technical review before deciding to consider moving forward with an environmental review.

Preliminary Environmental Review

FAA conducts an internal environmental review to evaluate any potential environmental concerns.

Internal Review and choice of appropriate level of NEPA review

Internal analysis such as the noise screening reports as well as input from the public are used to assist the FAA in determining the appropriate level of NEPA review to conduct.

Extraordinary Circumstances

Paragraph 5-2 of FAA Order 1050.1F identifies the range of factors which define Extraordinary Circumstances.

Significant Impacts

The FAA uses thresholds that serve as specific indicators of significant impact for some environmental impact categories. FAA proposed actions that would result in impacts at or above these thresholds require the preparation of an EIS, unless impacts can be reduced below threshold levels.

