

APPENDIX 2. SYSTEMS ENGINEERING SERVICE

1. GENERAL. This appendix sets forth environmental procedures to be used regarding research, engineering and development programs of FAA.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. Establish environmental procedures and guidelines for National Airspace System programs, facilities, housing, and research/development activities.

b. Participate with other offices, services, and centers in the conduct of assessments and the preparation, processing, and evaluation of an EIS or FONSI for major actions involving;

(1) Development of systems with future cumulative, significant environmental impact;

(2) The inclusion into the National Airspace System of new equipment and techniques developed in RE&D programs.

c. Conduct periodic review of RE&D actions implementing this order;

d. Assure retention of documentation files by the organizational components having program or subprogram responsibility; and

e. Prepare and transmit to AEE a publicly available record which sets forth reasons for a determination that although an EIS may be required, its preparation is still premature and thus unnecessary. Such a record should be updated when significant new information becomes available.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT OR FONSI. In determining whether RE&D programs and plans which have not been excluded require preparation of an assessment, EIS or FONSI, the following factors shall be considered:

a. The magnitude of Federal investment in the program;

b. The likelihood of widespread application of the technology;

c. The degree of environment impact which would occur if the technology were widely applied; and

d. The extent to which continued investment is likely to restrict future alternatives.

4. TIMING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROCEDURES. An EIS or FONSI should be prepared late enough in the development cycle to contain meaningful information but early enough for analysis of environmental effects and alternative course of action to be significant inputs in the program decisionmaking process. An EIS or FONSI where required should be completed:

- a. On or before completion of RE&D and before introduction into the National Airspace System.
- b. Prior to, or with submission for comment to outside organizations of draft standards (RE&D products) or technical data packages per 9500.4; and
- c. Prior to submission of draft Orders, Notices, Advisory Circulars to outside organizations for comment.