

## CHAPTER 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CONTENTS

60. GENERAL. Each EIS shall be prepared in accordance with Attachment 2 of DOT Order 5610.1C.

61. FORMAT. CEQ sec. 1502.10 contains a standard format, which is to be followed for environmental impact statements, as follows:

- (a) Cover Sheet
- (b) Summary
- (c) Table of Contents
- (d) Purpose and Need for the Action
- (e) Alternatives Including the Proposed Action
- (f) Affected Environment
- (g) Environmental Consequences
- (h) List of Preparers
- (i) List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to Whom Copies of the Statement are Sent
- (j) Index
- (k) Appendices (if any)

62. COVER SHEET AND SUMMARY.

a. The cover sheet shall include the information required in CEQ sec. 1502.11 plus a heading as follows:

"DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
Draft (or Final) Environmental Impact Statement

This statement is submitted for review pursuant to the following public law requirements: [List those applicable; e.g., section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966]."

b. The summary shall include the information required in CEQ sec. 1502.12 which states "Each environmental impact statement shall contain a summary which adequately and accurately summarizes the statement. The summary shall stress the major conclusions, areas of controversy (including issues raised by agencies and the public), and the issues to be resolved (including the choice among alternatives). The summary will normally not exceed 15 pages.

63. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE ACTION. CEQ sec. 1502.13 states "The statement shall briefly specify the underlying purpose and need to which the agency is responding in proposing the alternatives including the proposed action."

64. ALTERNATIVES (INCLUDING PROPOSED ACTION). CEQ sec. 1502.14 states that "This section is the heart of the environmental impact statement." Further, it is to be "Based on the information and analysis presented in the sections on the Affected Environment (paragraph 65) ... and the Environmental Consequences (paragraph 66) ...". The FAA responsible official shall apply the applicable CEQ sections below for EISs and in less detail for environmental assessments:

a. Section 1502.1. The environmental impact statement "...shall inform decisionmakers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment."

b. Section 1502.2(e). "The range of alternatives discussed in environmental impact statements shall encompass those to be considered by the ultimate agency decisionmaker."

c. Section 1502.14. The environmental impact statement "...should present the environmental impacts of the proposal and the alternatives in comparative form, thus sharply defining the issues and providing a clear basis for choice among options by the decisionmaker and the public."

d. Section 1502.14(a). Agencies shall "Rigorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives, and for alternatives which were eliminated from detailed study, briefly discuss the reasons for their having been eliminated."

e. Section 1502.14(b). Agencies shall "Devote substantial treatment to each alternative considered in detail including the proposed action so that reviewers may evaluate their comparative merits."

f. Section 1502.14(c). Agencies shall "Include reasonable alternatives not within the jurisdiction of the lead agency."

g. Section 1502.14(d). Agencies shall "Include the alternative of no action."

h. Section 1502.14(f). Agencies shall "Include appropriate mitigation measures not already included in the proposed action or alternatives."

65. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT. The EIS shall precisely describe the environment of the area(s) to be affected or created by the alternatives under consideration. The descriptions shall be no longer than is necessary to understand the effects of the alternatives (CEQ sec. 1502.15).

a. The amount of detail provided in descriptions of the affected environment shall be commensurate with the amount of information required at the particular level of decisionmaking.

b. The statement shall identify, as appropriate, population and growth characteristics of the affected area, and any population and growth assumptions used to justify the project or program or to determine secondary population and growth impacts resulting from the proposed action and its alternatives.

c. The statement shall describe other related activities (past, present or foreseeable future actions) in the area, their interrelationships, and cumulative environmental impact (See CEQ sec. 1508.7 on cumulative impact).

d. The statement shall discuss the relationship of the proposed action to adopted or proposed land use plans, policies, controls, and goals and objectives of affected communities, including communities outside the jurisdiction in which the proposed project is located. Any participated consultations, permits or authorizations required by Federal law or regulation should be identified.

66. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES. Per CEQ sec. 1502.16, "This section forms the scientific and analytic basis for the comparisons under CEQ sec. 1502.14 (alternatives, as described in paragraph 64). It shall consolidate the discussions of those elements required by CEQ sec. 102(2)(C)(i), (ii), (iv), (v) of NEPA which are within the scope of the statement and as much of CEQ sec. 102(2)(C)(iii) [alternatives] as is necessary to support the comparisons. The discussion will include the environmental impacts of the alternatives including the proposed action, any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented, the relationship between short-term uses of man's environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, and any irreversible or irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the proposal should it be implemented. This section should not duplicate discussions in CEQ sec. 1502.14. It shall include discussions of:

a. "Direct effects and their significance [reference CEQ sec. 1508.18 for definition of 'effects' both direct and indirect]...

b. "Indirect effects and their significance...

c. "Possible conflicts between the proposed action and the objectives of Federal, regional, State, and local (and in the case of a reservation, Indian tribe) land use plans, policies and controls for the area concerned. (See CEQ sec. 1506.2(d) [Elimination of duplication with State and local procedures].)

d. "The environmental effects of alternatives including the proposed action. The comparisons under CEQ sec. 1502.14 will be based on this discussion.

e. "Energy requirements and conservation potential of various alternatives and mitigation measures.

f. "Natural or depletable resource requirements and conservation potential of various alternatives and mitigation measures.

g. "Urban quality, historic and cultural resources, and the design of the built environment, including the reuse and conservation potential of various alternatives and mitigation measures.

h. "Means to mitigate adverse environmental impacts (if not fully covered under CEQ sec. 1502.14(f))."

Specific environmental impact areas to be discussed "as much as is necessary to support the comparisons [of alternatives]" are described in Attachment 2 of this order.

67. MITIGATION MEASURES. Draft EISs should describe measures under consideration or planned to minimize harm from the proposed action. Measures which will increase the benefits of the proposed action should also be discussed. The following types of measures should be considered:

(1) Design and construction actions. These include alternative locations which avoid or reduce impacts, design measures which reduce impacts, for example, reduced scale facilities, alternative airport runway configurations, aircraft and airway technology which reduces noise, and construction of noise barriers.

(2) Management actions which reduce impacts during operation of the facility. These include aircraft operating procedures for noise abatement, maintaining open areas to enhance their usefulness as wildlife habitat.

(3) Replacement, restoration, and compensation. These measures include functional replacement of public facilities, residential or business relocation assistance, and restoration of natural areas disturbed by construction.

68. LIST OF PREPARERS. CEQ sec. 1502.17 states "The environmental impact statement shall list the names, together with their qualifications (expertise, experience, professional disciplines), of the persons who were primarily responsible for preparing the EIS or significant background papers, including basic components of the statement. Where possible the persons who are responsible for a particular analysis including analyses in background papers, shall be identified. Normally the list will not exceed two pages."

69.-70. RESERVED.