



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

## FACT SHEET: CEQ LIST OF FEDERAL AGENCY CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

- On August 15, 2017, President Trump issued [Executive Order 13807](#) directing the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to develop an initial list of actions to enhance and modernize the Federal environmental review and authorization process.
- As part of this [initial list of actions](#), CEQ developed a comprehensive list of the Federal agencies' categorical exclusions (CE List) in effect as of December 14, 2018.
- This resource will assist agencies in revising their CEs, as well as CEQ in reviewing proposed revisions, by identifying how similar classes of actions are treated in the CEs established by various agencies. The CE List will also provide states, tribes, project applicants, stakeholders, and interested members of the public increased access to CE information.
- While CEQ has undertaken to provide the most up-to-date list of currently available CEs, Federal agencies and stakeholders should review the relevant agency's NEPA procedures for applicable extraordinary circumstances and to ensure that a CE is currently available for use.
- The CE List is available [HERE](#).

### Background

- Under NEPA, Federal agencies, in consultation with CEQ, develop CEs for categories of agency actions that they have found do not have a significant impact on the environment. Federal agencies' CEs cover a broad range of actions, including administrative functions, operations and maintenance activities, research and information collection, emergency preparedness and response, and certain land management and infrastructure activities.
- CEs, which are not exemptions from NEPA review, reduce paperwork and allow agencies to focus their resources on actions that may significantly affect the quality of the environment.
- When establishing or revising a CE, Federal agencies publish their proposed CEs in the *Federal Register* for public comment. Following conclusion of the comment period, the agency evaluates the comments received. CEQ reviews an agency's proposed CE for conformity with NEPA, completing its review within 30 days of receiving the final text. CEQ Guidance on Establishing, Applying, and Revising Categorical Exclusions under NEPA is available [here](#).

December 2018