

(e) *Environmental impact statement (EIS)*. An EIS is a detailed written statement required by NEPA for major Federal actions with significant environmental effects (42 U.S.C. 4321, section 102(2)(c)). (See appendix C.) (See subpart F for requirements.)

(f) *Life cycle environmental document (LCED)*. The LCED is intended to be a programmatic assessment that addresses the known and reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts of a proposed item/system during all phases of development, production, use, and ultimate disposal of the item/system. The LCED may be in the form of an EA or an EIS, and must be supplemental to address additional significant environmental impacts as conditions change. The LCED will be prepared by the DA proponent/developer (or program manager) and is most frequently used within the materiel research, development, and acquisition community.

(g) *Record of Decision (ROD)*. A public ROD is required under the provisions of 40 CFR 1505.2 after completion of an EIS. Nevertheless, the ROD is not considered to be an environmental document since the decision considers other factors in addition to environmental issues. (See § 651.32(i) for application.)

§ 651.15 Optional documents.

The following additional documents may assist in the implementation of this regulation. These documents are optional, but their use is encouraged.

(a) *Environmental planning guide*. Prepared prior to or at the outset of a major program concept exploration. It is a concise (for example, 10-page) document intended for use by the program planners and designers. It provides guidelines and supporting rationale by which planners and designers could prevent, avoid, or minimize adverse environmental effects through environmentally sensitive design and planning. Through appropriate language in the scope of work, contractors can be encouraged or required to use such an environmental planning guide.

(b) *Environmental planning record*. This records the progress and process of environmental considerations throughout a given program's development. Ideally, it is a document that is written when the program commences.

There is no set form; it may be a journal with periodic entries, a file of memoranda, trip reports, and so forth. This document is a visible track record of how environmental factors have actually been considered and incorporated throughout the planning process. Through appropriate language in the scope of work, contractors can be encouraged or required to prepare an environmental planning record, or parts thereof.

(c) *Environmental monitoring report*. This report is prepared at one or more points after program or action execution. Its purpose is to determine the accuracy of impact predictions. It can serve as the basis for adjustments in mitigation programs and to adjust impact predictions in future projects.

Subpart D—Categorical Exclusions (CX)

§ 651.16 Introduction.

(a) The use of CX is intended to reduce paperwork and delay and eliminate unnecessary EA and EIS preparation. CX is defined in the Glossary.

(b) The following criteria will be used to determine those categories of actions that normally do not require either an EIS or EA:

(1) Minimal or no individual or cumulative effect on environmental quality.

(2) No environmentally controversial change to existing environmental conditions.

(3) Similarity to actions previously examined and found to meet the above criteria.

§ 651.17 Determining when to use a CX.

In order to use the CX provision, the proponent must take the following actions:

(a) Determine whether the proposal is encompassed by one of the categories not normally requiring the preparation of an EA or EIS. (See appendix A.)

(b) Determine if there are any extraordinary circumstances that may result in the proposed action having an impact on the human environment that would require an EA or EIS. These circumstances include—