

THE NEPA CHECKLIST



Federal Communications Commission regulations (47 CFR 1.1307, et. seq.) require that owners of antenna structures consider the potential environmental effects of construction and operation of communications structures and facilities prior to construction.

Many carriers will not consider collocating antennas on towers constructed after March 16, 2001 that have not been adequately evaluated in accordance with the FCC regulations. At a minimum, many carriers require a clearance letter from State and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO or THPO) and a clearance letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding federally protected species and migratory birds. Consultation with other agencies may also be necessary, depending on site specific circumstances.

The complete list of environmental and cultural resource areas requiring evaluation is provided in the nearby table.

Evaluation of these resources is typically referred to as the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Review process or simply, The NEPA Checklist.

In considering the NEPA items, it is important to remember that according to the FCC rules, a facility does not have to be physically located within an environmentally sensitive area to effect environmental or cultural resources. Therefore, adequate completion of the NEPA review typically requires expertise and professional experience in evaluation of environmental and cultural resource issues.

ECA has completed more than 4,000 projects on over 1,800 telecommunications sites since 1989. Please call Marvin Webster of ECA at (770) 667-2040 x101 to learn more about the FCC Environmental requirements.

THE 9 NEPA CHECKLIST ITEMS

Will the undertaking affect...

- 1 Officially Designated Wilderness Areas**
- 2 Officially Designated Wildlife Preserves**
- 3 Federally Threatened and Endangered Species and Candidate Species**
- 4 Archeological and Historic Sites listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places**
- 5 Indian Religious Sites**
- 6 Floodplains**

Will the undertaking involve...

- 7 Wetland Fill, Deforestation, Water Diversion (i.e., changes in surface features)**
- 8 High Intensity Lights in Residential Neighborhoods**
- 9 Excessive Radiofrequency Emissions**

ECA is an environmental and geotechnical consulting and engineering firm with a 20-year track record of excellent service to clients. ECA attributes its success to providing timely and innovative services and solutions with a persistent focus on the objectives of clients.

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