

# Navigating the NEPA Process in Navajo Country Agenda

## A Workshop for Project Success

May 15, 2025

Window Rock, Arizona

Navajo Nation Quality Inn



### Agenda Items

<b>8:00 – 8:30 am</b>	<b>Introductions and Workshop Overview</b>
<b>8:30 – 10:00 am</b>	<b>The Early Environmental Movement and the Evolution of NEPA and its Implementing Regulations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How the Industrial Revolution led to Environmental Disasters</li><li>• The Early Environmental Movement and Creation of NEPA</li><li>• NEPA (42 USC) and the Fiscal Recovery Act amendments</li><li>• Recent changes to the NEPA Regulations</li></ul>
<b>10:00 – 10:15 am</b>	<b>Morning Break</b>
<b>10:15 – 11:00 am</b>	<b>NEPA Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is the NEPA process?</li><li>• Screening your project: Understand the federal connection and other laws. What is the proposed action and what is the federal action?</li><li>• Breaking down the NEPA process: Stages 1, 2, and 3</li><li>• Understand the Tribe's involvement</li></ul>
<b>11:00 am – 12:00</b>	<b>What Level of Environmental Review and Public Scoping Does Your Project Require?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Categorical Exclusion (CE), Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)</li><li>• Document Format</li><li>• EIS vs EA public scoping regulations</li></ul>
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch Break (On your Own)</b>

<b>1:00 – 2:00 pm</b>	<b>Federal Delegation of Leasing Authority to Navajo Nation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title 25 – Indians. Chapter 12 - Lease, Sale, or Surrender of Allotted or Unallotted Lands: 25 USC 415(e): Leases of restricted lands.</li> <li>• 16 NNC 62301 et seq. - Navajo Nation General Leasing Regulations of 2013 passed by the 22nd NN Council (does not apply to business site leases)</li> <li>• Subchapter 8. Environmental Review Process</li> <li>• General Land Development Checklist</li> <li>• Business Site Leasing is slightly different</li> </ul>
<b>2:00 – 2:30 pm</b>	<b>Q&amp;A for Individual Projects</b>
<b>2:30 – 3:15 pm</b>	<b>Using Available Data Sources for EAs &amp; Preliminary Site Feasibility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing Baseline Conditions (Chapter 3)</li> <li>• Using online data sources and interactive websites available from federal, state and tribal websites.</li> <li>• How to access data and what to consider.</li> </ul>
<b>3:15 – 3:30 pm</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>3:30 – 4:00 pm</b>	<b>Impact Analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct and Indirect Impacts in EA - Chapter 4)</li> <li>• Cumulative Impacts in EA - Chapter 4</li> <li>• FONSI vs. Record of Decision</li> </ul>
<b>4:00 – 4:45 pm</b>	<b>Using GIS as a Tool for Impact Analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is GIS? Software and tools: ESRI ArcPro and what GIS can do</li> <li>• Considerations: Data limitations &amp; best practices</li> <li>• Case study</li> </ul>
<b>4:45 – 5:00</b>	<b>Closing Remarks &amp; Raffle</b>

This agenda is subject to revisions.