

DEPARTMENTAL MANUAL



TRANSMITTAL SHEET

PART 516 DM 10	SUBJECT Environmental Quality Programs National Environmental Policy Act Managing the NEPA Process Bureau of Indian Affairs	RELEASE NUMBER 5021
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance		DATE 07/28/2020


EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

This proposed revision to 516 DM 10 – Managing the NEPA Process – BIA, incorporates categorical exclusions (CEs) that were previously established, as well as updated citations and the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) current organizational structure and authorities.

Five CEs, which were previously established by the following Federal Register notices, are being incorporated into the Departmental Manual (DM) chapter.

1. Homesite CE, 77 Fed. Reg. 47,862, for the leasing and funding of single-family homesites on Indian land, including associated improvements and easements, which encompass 5 acres or less of contiguous land.
2. Forestry CEs (three), 80 Fed. Reg. 8098, for timber harvesting on Indian lands. The actions are for harvesting live trees not to exceed 70 acres; salvaging dead or dying trees not to exceed 250 acres; and commercial and non-commercial sanitation harvest of trees to control insects or disease not to exceed 250 acres, all when requiring no more than 0.5 mile of temporary road construction and when within the specific harvesting and salvaging conditions identified further in the individual CE text.
3. Tribal Transportation Program oversight CE (25 CFR 170.453), 81 Fed. Reg. 78,456, which provides the ability to use Federal Highway Administration CEs when BIA performs the identical oversight activities for Title 23 funds under the Tribal Transportation Program.

The CEs have been in use since their Federal Register effective dates in August 2012, February 2015, and November 2016, respectively. The DM chapter was not simultaneously revised because additional updates involving other BIA and DOI organizations were necessary, resulting in delays in development of the chapter.

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Acting Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

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516 DM 10 (9 Sheets)

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