



United States Department of the Interior

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20240

PEP - ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT MEMORANDUM NO. ESM 13-1

To: Heads of Bureaus and Offices

From: Michaela E. Noble, Director /s/09/24/2018
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

Subject: Environmental Statement Memoranda

PURPOSE

Environmental Statement Memoranda (ESMs) provide complementary information and guidance to bureaus and offices of the Department to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended. The NEPA compliance follows the order of precedence below:

- a. Council on Environmental Quality regulations at [40 CFR 1500 et seq.](#),
- b. Department of the Interior regulations at [43 CFR Part 46](#),
- c. Department of the Interior policy at [516 DM](#),
- d. Department of the Interior guidance provided in [ESMs](#).

This office issues ESMs as they relate to the general environmental compliance responsibilities of the Department pursuant to [43 CFR 46.30](#) and [381 DM 4.5B](#).

PROCESS

The memoranda in this series will be updated as appropriate; current ESMs will be maintained and made available at <https://www.doi.gov/oepc/resources/environmental-memoranda-series>.

GENERAL

This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person. Additionally, nothing in this guidance is intended to affect the authority and responsibility of the United States Department of Justice with respect to the conduct of litigation on behalf of the United States.

This memorandum replaces ESM 17-1.