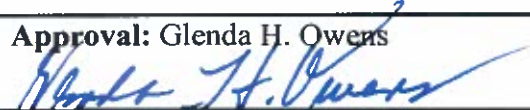
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT DIRECTIVES SYSTEM	Subject Code: REG - 1
		Transmittal Number: 995
		Date: JUL 31 2019
Subject: Handbook on Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)		
Approval: Glenda H. Owens 		Title: Deputy Director Exercising the Authority of the Director

1. **Purpose.** This directive establishes the “Handbook on Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969” (NEPA) as the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement’s (OSMRE) official guide on compliance with NEPA, as amended. The Handbook describes responsibilities and procedures for OSMRE implementation of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), Executive Order 13807, the Department of Interior (DOI) NEPA Regulations (43 CFR 46), DOI Departmental Manual (516 DM Chapters 1-4 & 13), Secretarial Order 3355, and other related laws and regulations.

2. **Summary of Changes.** This directive updates the responsibilities and procedures for OSMRE implementation of NEPA, the CEQ Regulations, DOI NEPA Regulations, DOI DM 516 Chapters 1-4 & 13, Executive Orders, Secretarial Orders, and other related laws and regulations. The [NEPA Handbook](#) is issued and maintained by the Program Support Directorate and sets out the procedures governing OSMRE compliance with NEPA.

3. **Policy.** OSMRE policy is to interpret and administer its policies, regulations, and applicable laws in accordance with the policies of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), Executive Order 13807, the Department of Interior (DOI) NEPA Regulations (43 CFR 46), DOI Departmental Manual (516 DM Chapters 1-4 & 13), Secretarial Order 3355, and other related laws and regulations.

4. **Responsibilities.** Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement – The Director is ultimately responsible for OSMRE NEPA compliance (516 DM 13).

a. Deputy Director – In the absence of the Director, the Deputy Director is responsible for agency NEPA compliance.

b. Assistant Director, Program Support Directorate (AD/PSD) – The AD/PSD is responsible for the approval or disapproval of draft and final EISs originating at Headquarters, for signing and publishing all notices of intent to prepare such documents, and for final review and approval of EA/FONSIs prepared at Headquarters or requiring Headquarters’ approval. The AD/PSD is also responsible for ensuring OSMRE compliance with NEPA and other related

environmental laws, regulations, and directives. The AD/PSD is designated the responsibility for the coordination and conduct of environmental reviews and shall report this information to the Director. See 516 DM 4.3(E).

c. **Regional Directors** – These officials are responsible for the approval or disapproval of draft and final EISs originating in their respective Regions and for signing and publishing all notices of intent to prepare such documents. Regional Directors (or designated official) are also responsible for final review and approval of EA/FONSIs and determinations of categorical exclusions prepared in their respective Regions. Also, these officials are responsible for implementing the procedures of this Handbook for actions originating in their respective Regions.

d. **Chief, Division of Regulatory Support (DRS)** – The Chief, DRS, is responsible for ensuring OSMRE compliance under NEPA and other related environmental laws, regulations, and directives.

e. **Field Office Directors (FODs)** – FODs are responsible for the preparation of NEPA documents for actions originating within their jurisdiction. Also, FODs are responsible for implementing the procedures of this Handbook for Field Office-originated actions, except those specifically designated to a responsible Region or Headquarters, and for final review and approval of EA/FONSIs and determinations of categorical exclusions prepared in their Field Offices.

5. **Procedures**. None.

6. **Reporting Requirements**. None.

7. **Effect on Other Documents**. When issued, this version of Directive REG-1 supersedes and replaces the previous version issued November 29, 1988, and all subsequent Change Notices.

8. **References**. None.

9. **Effective Date**. 60 calendar days after signature date

10. **Distribution**. By electronic format. All OSMRE directives are publicly available [here](#).

11. **Appendices**. None.

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