

PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANT PROGRAM

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT COMPLIANCE

PSIC PROJECT AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

All Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program projects need to be evaluated for compliance with environmental, cultural, and historic preservation requirements. To expedite the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is providing support to grantees and subgrantees to help prepare and provide the required project documentation. Organizing these materials in advance will ensure that each project's information addresses the "PSIC Project and Environmental Information" listed below. This information can be found in local master plans, previous NEPA or environmental documentation, or correspondence with other resource agencies. The "Regulatory Need" column explains the purpose for the information. NTIA will use the project information, in conjunction with independent research, to make its PSIC NEPA determinations.

PSIC Component	Regulatory Need/Driver
<p>Basic project information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of project • Property owners • Grantee point of contact with phone/email • Overall purpose and scope of project 	<p>Presents general descriptive information about the purpose and need for the project, and the responsible party (e.g., action proponent/grant applicant). This information determines who can be contacted for questions or additional information.</p>
<p>Project location data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address (include county) • Latitude/longitude • Elevation • FAA/FCC numbers (for towers) 	<p>Used to determine jurisdiction of administering agencies and corresponding laws and regulations over the proposed project (e.g., whether U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service must be consulted for an action in, near, or potentially affecting wetlands, waterways, or water bodies).</p>
<p>Visual documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site/structure photographs • Aerial photographs • Flood, wetlands, and land-use maps • Plans/drawings for proposed action 	<p>Used to verify project location data and identify impacts or relationships to nearby properties or environments (e.g., assess whether the Farmland Protection Policy Act applies and the need for Farmland Conversion Form AD-1006).</p>
<p>Project description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dimensions/acreage/square footage of structure and/or land affected, with height and structural support information for all communication towers • Extent and depth of ground disturbance for new construction and structure modification, including trenching for utility lines, installation of fencing and light posts, tower footings and pads, etc. 	<p>Used to determine project coordination, permit requirements, and approvals (e.g., for zoning variance).</p>
<p>Special elements of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment used for staging areas, access roads, easements, etc. • Extent of structural modification 	<p>Used to determine and assess construction-related impacts and mitigation (e.g., blasting during seasonally present protected species).</p>
<p>Information about features, resources, and potential adverse impacts at or near the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water bodies (e.g., rivers, lakes, wetlands, etc.) • Floodplains • Historic and cultural resources (e.g., historic buildings, bridges, archaeological sites) • Migratory birds • Threatened and endangered species and/or critical habitat (Federal and State) • Vegetation, including general types of plants, trees, or lack thereof • Geologic features • Tribal, cultural, and religious sites • Special areas (e.g., forests, wildlife refuges, reserves) 	<p>Used to determine compliance with the following Federal regulations, as well as corresponding State and local laws and regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Air Act • Clean Water Act – Section 404 (Wetlands) and Sections 313, 401, and 402 (Water Quality) • Coastal Zone Management Act • Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act • Coastal Barrier Resources Act • Endangered Species Act • Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) • Executive Order 11990 (Wetland Protection) • Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice) • Farmland Protection Policy Act • Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act • National Historic Preservation Act • Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) • Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
<p>Any recent or relevant studies, reports, or surveys prepared for other agencies or purposes that provide information on environmental resources and/or historic properties in the project area.</p>	<p>Consulted to determine precedents set by similar projects and actions.</p>