

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

KEVIN J. THIBAULT, P.E. SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

RON DESANTIS

GOVERNOR

DATE:	December 23, 2020
TO:	District Planning and Environmental Administrators, District Environmental Managers, and District Environmental Project Development Engineers
FROM:	Jason Watts, Director, Office of Environmental Management
COPIES:	Courtney Drummond, P.E., Will Watts, P.E., Directors of Transportation Development
SUBJECT:	Documenting the re-evaluation of Type 1 Categorical Exclusions and Non-Major State Actions in the Statewide Environmental Project Tracker

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BULLETIN 20-02

This bulletin provides information on a change in methodology which allows previously approved Type 1 Categorical Exclusions (CEs) and Non-Major State Actions (NMSAs) to be re-evaluated when changes have been made to the project, existing conditions have changed, or more than a year has passed since the previous approval, and a subsequent release of federal funds is necessary (Type 1 CE). Where the existing process requires a new CE1 or NMSA be completed, using the Type 1 CE and NMSA checklist forms contained in the Statewide Environmental Project Tracker (SWEPT). The new process, effective today, allows the reevaluation of previous approvals by reviewing all the previously approved information, making edits where necessary and reevaluating and reaffirming the previous approval.

The SWEPT interactive forms for Type 1 CE or NMSA have been updated with functionality that allow modifications to previously approved actions to be re-evaluated only updating elements, as needed. SWEPT maintains a documented record on original and re-evaluated projects in the SWEPT project file.

The updates to this methodology and the changes to the SWEPT forms are not currently consistent with the guidelines published in the following chapters of the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Manual, Topic No. 650-000-001 (July 1, 2020):

- Part 1, Chapter 2 (Class of Action Determination for Federal Projects)
- Part 1, Chapter 10 (State, Local, or Privately Funded Project Delivery)
- Part 1, Chapter 13 (Re-evaluations)

Guidance in these chapters regarding the methodology and the forms in SWEPT will be updated with the next revision of the PD&E Manual.

Type 1 CEs and NMSAs that require re-evaluations after December 23, 2020 (release date), should use the new forms in SWEPT and not create a new Type 1 CE or NMSA. The general content and requirements of developing T1CE and NMSA checklists have not changed, but additional options on the forms facilitate the documentation, approval, and certification of the environmental re-evaluation when required.

A Quick Guide is available on SWEPT under the Help menu.

<u>CONTACT</u> Office of Environmental Management Pete McGilvray State Environmental Quality and Performance Administrator <u>Peter.McGilvray@dot.state.fl.us</u> Office (850)414-5330

JW/PM/RMR