



#26-01 R1: 2025 Presidential Executive Orders Affecting NEPA Compliance

Purpose

This Office Bulletin provides a high-level overview of recent federal actions affecting National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for Local Assistance transportation projects and outlines the immediate actions required.

Presidential Executive Order (EO)14154: "Unleashing American Energy" revokes EO11991 that authorized the Council of Environmental Quality regulations. EO 14148 and 14173 rescind EO13985 (Equity), EO12898 and EO 14096 (Environmental Justice).

Policy Update

In accordance with EO 14154, 14148, and 14173, the following requirements are effective immediately:

- **Environmental Justice and Equity** – Do not include environmental justice or equity analysis in the NEPA portion of environmental documents. Use of this terminology is rescinded in LAPM Chapter 6 and associated Exhibits. Question 27 of the PES Form (Exhibit 6-A) and Question 23 of the PES (NI) Form (Exhibit 6-J) are no longer required.
- **Climate Change** – Do not include climate change or greenhouse gas analysis in the NEPA analysis. These analyses remain applicable under CEQA.
- **Public Hearing (LAPM Chapter 8)** - Effective immediately, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has rescinded the regulations previously found at 40 CFR 1500–1508. During this transition period, local agencies must continue to follow the environmental review procedures outlined in this chapter. Caltrans is currently revising Chapter 8 to reflect new federal guidance.
- **Terminology and Scope** – Avoid using terminology derived from rescinded CEQ (EO 11991 revoked) regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), past EO's (12898, 13985, and 14096), or recently excluded federal scope within the NEPA section of environmental documents, including Chapter 6 and Exhibits 6-A, 6-B, 6-J, and 6-K, see list below:
 - Accessibility (unless related to increasing "access to destinations" on the transportation network);
 - Climate Change;
 - Cumulative Impacts (use reasonably foreseeable effects);
 - Diversity;
 - Emissions (if it relates to greenhouse gases);



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- Environmental Justice;
- Equity (including racial equity and social equity);
- Green House Gases;
- Inclusion;
- Justice 40 Initiative;
- Reference to Executive Order number 12898, 13985, and 14096;
- Unserved or Underserved communities (use rural communities instead); and
- Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), or reference to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) 1500-1508.

Publication Changes

These updates supersede the 2026 publication while the affected questions of the Exhibits will be redlined on existing versions. Formal revisions will be incorporated in the next scheduled update.

Revised February 2026 by the Office of Environmental Compliance and Outreach (ECO)