







# 8 Environmental Considerations

Before any Master Plan project requiring federal funds or approval is constructed, any potential environmental issues would be assessed in more detail in a National **Environmental Policy** Act (NEPA) document. The FAA has several options for documenting environmental impacts, which are described in Exhibit 8-1. In addition, there are local environmental regulations, under the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), that would impact most projects in the Master Plan recommended CIP. Exhibit 8-2 describes the key projects in the CIP and the likely environmental documentation the Airport Authority will be required to undertake.

## **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documents**



### **Categorical Exclusion (CATEX)**

A CATEX ca be as simple as a two-page checklist, requiring the user to indicate if a project does not have an impact on particular environmental impact categories required by the FAA. In some cases a "Documented CATEX" may be required if there is a single issue that requires more analysis.



### **Environmental Assessment (EA)**

A "concise document" that analyzes the expected environmental effects of a proposed action and which tends to be shorter than an EIS. It summarizes the most important facts and conclusions regarding the proposed action and any reasonable alternatives. The FAA allows "short-form" EA's, which typically result in a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI).



### **Environmental Impacts Statements (EIS)**

A detailed analysis to ensure that the policies and goals defined in NEPA, generally prepared for projects with "significant" prospective environmental impacts (such as a new runway). High-levels of controversy can also trigger an EIS.

# Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)



Requires Written Consent (requires coordination letter, project scope, and soil sample results):

- Any well drilling, well installation, new groundwater usage
- Any soil disturbance or excavation greater than two cubic yards

Exhibit 8-1 National and State Environmental Documents

Expected NEPA Requirements for RDP Projects		
Taxiway Shoulders	CATEX	Ground is previously disturbed and there appear to be no impacted environmental impact categories
Crawford Station Taxiway	CATEX	May impact a jurisdictional wetland, requiring coordination with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Passenger Terminal Improvements	NONE	Each improvement is a reconfiguration of interior space, not requiring NEPA documentation
Air Cargo Landside and Warehouse	CATEX	Roadway modifications, landside expansion, and warehouse expansion are likely covered by a CATEX
Air Cargo Apron Expansion	EA	The construction of storm water systems and outfall through the Airport's levee system may trigger a Short-Form EA
PaANG Parking in Crawford Station	EA	Prior to construction of parking lot, the ash pits would need to be covered by two feet of clean dirt; appropriate level of documentation would either be a Documented CATEX or EA
		Exhibit 8-2 NEPA Requirements For RDP Project

Exhibit 8-2 NEPA Requirements For RDP Projects





