

Methods for Documenting Re-evaluations

Two methods may be used to document re-evaluation of CE/DCE level projects. Consult with FHWA to determine the best approach for your project.

1. For simple re-evaluations, write a letter or memo to file. The memo should include the following:
 - A clear statement of the reasons(s) for the re-evaluation.
 - A summary of the impacts of the change(s).
 - Updated or revised information supporting the determination that the original NEPA review is still valid. Depending on the nature of the change(s) that trigger the re-evaluation, this may include a completed ESA re-initiation; Section 106 revised area of potential effects/determination of effect, or other analysis.
 - A clear statement that the original NEPA review has been determined to still be valid. If this statement cannot be made then a new environmental document (ECS) is required.

2. Create a new ECS for re-evaluations that need to update information on several environmental disciplines.
 - State on the new ECS whether the new document is a re-evaluation of the entire project or is limited to just project changes and must be reviewed in combination with the original NEPA document. If the latter, be sure to include enough information about the previous project to ensure the original NEPA document can be found in ECS.
 - Attach updated discipline specific analysis as needed.