

## Subject of Examination

THERE WILL BE A WRITTEN TEST WHICH YOU MUST PASS IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT. THE WRITTEN TEST IS DESIGNED TO TEST FOR KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND/OR ABILITIES IN SUCH AREAS AS:	FOR EXAMINATION NUMBERS	
	37-977	37-979
<b>7. Project planning, design, environmental impact, contracts and contract administration</b> - These questions test for knowledge of the concepts, terminology, proper procedures, evaluation techniques, and computations used in the planning, design, and implementation of engineering projects and related contractual agreements, including scheduling and overseeing projects and/or contracts to completion, highway design, traffic studies, and environmental impact assessment.		X

# Environmental Process

- **Assessment of the environmental consequences (positive and negative) of a plan, policy, program or project prior to the decision to move forward with the proposed action.**
- **NYSDOT follows 2 processes for their Capital Program Projects depending on funding source:**
  - **NEPA**
  - **SEQR**

# **NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act of 1969**

**Purpose of NEPA is to promote informed decision-making by federal agencies by making “detailed information concerning significant environmental impacts” available to both agency leaders and the public.**

## **3 Classes of Projects:**

**I – Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – action that may have a significant environmental effect.**

**II- Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) – action that does not individually or cumulatively have significant environmental impacts. Routine, exempt actions/projects.**

**III- Environmental Assessment (EA) – action not clearly Class I or Class II. Usually results in a finding of no significant effect and must be supported by the EA.**

# EIS

- **An Environmental Impact Statement under US Environmental Law, is a document required by NEPA for certain actions “significantly affecting the quality of the human environment (both natural and built).” An EIS is a tool for decision making. It describes the positive and negative environmental effects of a proposed action, and it usually also lists one or more alternative actions that may be chosen instead of the action described in the EIS.**

# EA

- **An Environmental Assessment is used to determine whether an EIS is required. If no significant impact is likely, then agency follows a Finding of No Significant Effect (FONSE) and closes process. If significant impact is likely, then continue with EIS.**

# CATEX

- **When an action/project is identical or very similar to a past action and the impacts on the environment can be assumed for the proposed action.**

# Federal Environmental Laws & Executive Orders Affecting Transportation Projects

- **Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act**
- **Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act**
- **Section 4(f) of the USDOT Act of 1966**
- **Section 404 of the Clean Water Act**
- **Section 9 Coast Guard Bridge Permit**
- **Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899**
- **EO 11990 Protection of Wetlands**
- **EO 12898 Environmental Justice**
- **NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System**

**\*Avoid, minimize, mitigate**

# SEQR – State Environmental Quality Review

**Type I – Listed Actions, likely to require preparation of an EIS, but Agency (DOT) can determine if action is significant or not, if an EA can support a Determination of No Significant Effect (DONSE).**

**Type II – Listed actions determined not to have a significant impact on the environment. Exempt or excluded from environmental review due to the scope of the project.**

**Non-Type II Actions or Unlisted Actions– Actions that are not Type II actions and require an environmental review - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).**

# State Environmental Laws

- **Section 14.09 – Historic Preservation**
- **Section 401 Water Quality Certification**
- **Article 15 MOU Coordination**
- **Floodplain Management**
- **State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES)**
  - **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs)**

# Environmental Determination

**Each project needs to have an environmental determination to receive federal aid by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or State Aid.**

**If federal money or federal permits involved you need to follow NEPA (Capital Program Projects)**

**If only state money and state permits involved, you only need to follow SEQR (Maintenance Projects)**

**\*NEPA does not satisfy SEQR and SEQR does not satisfy NEPA**



# Erosion Control vs. Sediment Control

- **Erosion control is designed to prevent or minimize erosion and reduce the need for sediment control. ex.; seeding and mulching**
- **Sediment control is a practice or device designed to keep eroded soil on a construction site so that it does not wash off and cause water pollution to a nearby resource. Usually temporary - ex; check dams, silt fence, turbidity curtain**

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