

Environmental Review Documents

(Cleared Under OMB Docket No. 0575-0197)

For the Agency to consider an application, the application must include all environmental review documents with supporting documentation in accordance with 7 CFR part 1970.

Any required environmental review must be completed prior to obligation of funds; as per 7 CFR 1970.11(b).

Applicants are advised to contact the Agency/RD State Office/State Energy Coordinator to determine environmental requirements as soon as practicable to ensure adequate review time for their proposed projects.

Project characteristics should help determine the type of environmental review required.

- Projects replacing fuel dispensers, but no Underground Storage Tanks and Systems (USTS) related activity should qualify as Categorical Exclusion (Cat. Ex.) without a report. 7 CFR 1970.53(c)(2) refers to upgrading equipment in existing structures.
- Projects replacing USTS with no new ground disturbance should qualify as Categorical Exclusion (Cat Ex.) without report. 7 CFR 1970.53(c)(2) is appropriate.
- New fuel dispenser and/or UST installation or replacement with new ground disturbance should qualify as Categorical Exclusion (Cat Ex.) with report. 7 CFR 1970.54(c)(13) is appropriate. This assumes in both cases that there is no extraordinary circumstance present that would elevate the level of environmental review per 7 CFR 1970.52.

Applicants are advised in all cases of new facilities construction to contact RD State/State Environmental Coordinator to determine environmental requirements as soon as practicable.

Please note that the following Tribes should only be contacted by Rural Development staff:

- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma,
- Chickasaw Nation,
- Cherokee Nation,
- Delaware Tribe of Indians,
- Osage Nation, and
- Nez Perce Tribe.