

# Environmental Statutes

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# Overview

- Provide information on the principal environmental statutes affecting NRC environmental reviews
- Highlight the regulatory framework for NRC environmental reviews
- Workshop Goals
  - Understand NRC's environmental review responsibilities and challenges
  - Understand how environmental reports can be prepared to support more efficient staff reviews

# National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

- Statement of Purpose
  - Declares national policy on environmental protection
- Substantive Goals
  - Sets national goals for environmental protection
- Procedural Requirements
  - Provides action-forcing procedures which require agencies to prepare a detailed statement of the environmental impacts of proposed actions and alternatives
- Council on Environmental Quality

# 10 CFR Part 51

- Implements the procedural provisions of NEPA
- Voluntarily take account of CEQ regulations
- Designates actions
  - Requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS)
  - Requiring an environmental assessment (EA)
  - That may be categorically excluded from environmental review
- Codifies generic conclusions reached by the Commission regarding certain environmental impacts

# 10 CFR Part 51 – Environmental Reports and Information

- 10 CFR 51.41
  - Requirement to submit environmental information
- 10 CFR 51.45
  - Environmental Report
- 10 CFR 51.53(c)
  - Post-construction environmental reports, operating license renewal stage

# 10 CFR Part 51 – Environmental Impact Statements

- 10 CFR 51.71 and 51.91
  - Draft and final environmental impact statement contents
- 10 CFR 51.95(c)
  - Post-construction environmental impact statements, operating license renewal stage

# Guidance Documents

- Regulatory Guide 4.2, Supplement 1
  - Environmental Reports
- NUREG-1555, Supplement 1
  - Environmental Impact Statements

(<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/guidance.html>)

# Other Environmental Statutes

- Impose Requirements on NRC
  - Endangered Species Act
  - Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
  - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
  - National Historic Preservation Act



# Other Environmental Statutes

- Impose Requirements on Applicants
  - Clean Water Act
  - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
  - Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act
  - Coastal Zone Management Act

# Summary

- Environmental Review Activities
  - Guided by NEPA and other environmental protection statutes
  - Require significant interaction with Federal and State stakeholders