

Hicks-Ray Associates

Implementing Strategies, Achieving Success



April 16, 2018

TO: WESTCAS Membership

FROM: Hicks-Ray Associates

SUBJECT: Trump Administration Issues “One Federal Decision” MOU

On Monday, April 9 the Trump Administration released an MOU implementing its “One Federal Decision” policy under Executive Order 13807. The goal of the MOU is to “establish a cooperative relationship for the timely processing of environmental reviews and authorization decisions for major infrastructure projects under the One Federal Decision Policy established in Executive Order 13807.”

Among the highlights of this MOU:

- Federal agencies with a role in the environmental review and permitting process are directed to develop a decision schedule for that project.
- Agencies will work together to develop a single Permitting Timetable for the necessary environmental review and authorization decisions.
- This includes a single environmental impact statement, a single Record of Decision and issuing all necessary authorization decisions within 90 days of issuance of the ROD.
- Sets a goal for agencies of reducing the time for completing environmental reviews and authorization decisions to an agency average of not more than two years from publication of a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS.

The Secretaries and/or Administrators of DOI, USDA, Commerce, HUD, DOT, DOE, DHS, Army Corps of Engineers, USEPA, FERC and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council signed the MOU.

The initial steps in launching this multi-Federal agency policy on permitting and its impact on infrastructure projects in the Arid West will be one of the many issues discussed during the WESTCAS annual conference June 20-22 at the Island Palms Hotel and Marina in San Diego. Registration will soon be open, and we hope to see you there.

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