

Attachment 14A

Explanatory Note for Department of State (DoS) Report November 2, 2009

The Department of State (DoS) spreadsheet entries reporting the status of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for projects/activities funded under Division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) updates the previous report entries. The report reflects the following accomplishment since the July 15 submittal:

- All federal environmental reviews were completed for the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) Rio Grande Flood Control Lateral A-Retamal Dike segment.
- Work is ongoing to complete cultural resources and environmental permit requirements for the other four IBWC projects listed as 'No' in Column J.
- The Environmental Assessment for the Hard Skills Training Center (Line 2 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet and Categorical Exclusion for the proposed Data Center in the General Services Administration's Denver Federal Center have remained pending for more than one ARRA NEPA report. The Categorical Exclusion for the Data Center will be submitted shortly and completed in accordance with GSA's NEPA implementation guidance. The preferred site for the Hard Skills Training Center has not yet been selected, although selection criteria include a number of substantive environmental considerations. Once the preferred site is selected (decision expected imminently), the timeline for completing the EA can be better defined.

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