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To	From		
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September 23, 2002

By Facsimile: 801-517-1021

**CQ588**

The Council on Environmental Quality NEPA Task Force  
P.O. Box 221150  
Salt Lake City, UT 84122

Re: National Environmental Policy Act Task Force, Request for  
Comments, 67 FR 53931, August 20, 2002

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Western Governors' Association is an independent, nonprofit organization located in Denver, Colorado and Washington, D.C. WGA represents the Governors of 18 states and three U.S.-Flag Pacific islands. Through WGA, the Western Governors identify and address key policy and governance issues in natural resources, the environment, human services, economic development, international relations and public management.

The WGA is pleased that the Council on Environmental Quality has formed a National Environmental Policy Act Task Force to seek ways to improve and modernize NEPA analyses and documentation while fostering improved coordination among all levels of government and the public. WGA has long been involved in NEPA and similar processes in the region and has worked with CEQ in the past on NEPA implementation. WGA has facilitated numerous intergovernmental, multi-stakeholder NEPA-like processes as described below. WGA has also been involved with CEQ, the Department of State and the Environmental Protection Agency in the negotiation of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure for projects in the border regions between the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

The Governors' policy resolutions on NEPA, dating from 1999, have acknowledged the value of NEPA while noting that broad-based concerns are being expressed regarding the cost and effectiveness of its implementation. WGA Policy Resolution 02-08, updated and readopted on June 25, 2002 and entitled "Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act," is attached and incorporated by reference herein.

**Comments on B. – Federal and Inter-governmental Collaboration**

Before responding to the specific CEQ inquiries, WGA believes CEQ should consider a preliminary procedural issue. As one of the goals of

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the CEQ task force is to improve coordination among all levels of government, we believe the task force, now wholly made up of Federal agency representatives, should expand its membership to include state government representatives. States either implement their own environmental impact assessment processes or work closely with NEPA through cooperating agency status or otherwise. They therefore possess a wealth of knowledge and a perspective missing from the membership of the task force as it is presently constructed. The steps needed to make improvements can best be considered and decided upon with state participants at the table in direct participation with the federal agency representatives. To ensure the needed balance on the task force, WGA could facilitate the participation of a western state representative(s) who could represent the views of the WGA membership. Electronic document exchange in advance of task force meetings and telephone conferencing should be used to ensure that state views are given equal weight even if a state representative cannot physically be present at task force meetings.

As to the specific questions asked by the task force, Governors have long valued the opportunity for their state agencies to participate in NEPA processes with cooperating or joint-lead status. They were pleased that CEQ decided, through its January 30, 2002 memorandum, to emphasize to federal agencies the need to make cooperating agency status available. As you know, there are tremendous benefits to the NEPA process and to intergovernmental relations in allowing state agencies to share in the NEPA analysis through cooperating agency status. We believe there are a number of examples from the West that demonstrate how effective cooperating agency status can be in improving the NEPA process. These examples include:

California Coastal National Monument: Bureau of Land Management, State of California, and other Federal agencies;

Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area: Bureau of Land Management, State of Colorado, local community.

The Governors look forward to reviewing and providing feedback on the forthcoming October 2002 report by the federal agencies on the progress they are making to expand and track efforts regarding the use of cooperating agency status, as well as future reports to CEQ on this matter.

WGA has experience convening intergovernmental and stakeholder based collaborations on land management and air quality issues. Though these deliberations were not under the purview of NEPA, they did involve federal agencies and numerous stakeholders, and considered important environmental issues. These have ranged from community-based deliberations on land management, watershed and species conservation to multi-state, intergovernmental, multi-year projects. In both cases, we have learned that agreement among the parties at the front end of the process on such matters as general principles and philosophy governing the breadth of the analysis, quality assurance requirements for

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acceptance of scientific and technical data, and mechanisms for stakeholder involvement are critical to the success of the activity.

Based on these experiences, the Western governors adopted the Enlibra principles for environmental management. (See attached WGA Policy Resolution 02-07, "Principles for Environmental Management in the West.") These eight principles are introduced to participants early in the collaborative process. Consideration of the problem at hand through the prism of the principles prevents jumping to conclusions and usually leads to a positive opening to the collaboration. The issue at hand is reframed in view of the principles. This yields a better understanding of the problem, areas of agreement among governments and stakeholders, and a more open-minded view of possible solutions.

With respect to the quality assurance principles, they proved to be invaluable to safeguarding deliberations from spurious data and scientific conclusions. In the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission for example, the principles called for multi-stakeholder review, peer review, and occasionally, independent contractor analysis before Commission acceptance of the data or analyses. Having this quality assurance process allowed the Commission to seek and accept more data from the parties for its deliberations while maintaining professional credibility and acceptance for its findings.

Mechanisms for governmental and stakeholder involvement are also critical to define at the front end of the process, large or small. The convener of a process must describe or reach agreement with all parties on what their role will be and how much influence they will be given in the process. WGA strives for consensus across parties in its projects, sometimes setting up a last resort voting process and other times limiting outcomes to fully agreed upon recommendations.

#### **Comments on A. - Technology, Information Management, and Information Security**

The Governors believe strongly that new technologies, such as geographic information systems and other decision support tools, are adding great value to the NEPA process and their use should be expanded and standardized. Ideally, all federal agencies should be undertaking their NEPA analyses using a single technology template that would allow for consistency in how all agencies engage state and local governments and the public. Presently, each federal agency uses different data standards and technology platforms when trying to use technology in the NEPA context and often the standards and use of technology even vary within an agency. A federal technology framework should be agreed upon that would set standards and processes for all federal agencies involved in NEPA processes. Not only would such a framework serve the interest of non-federal governments and the public because of its consistency across agencies and projects, it would also allow for a tremendous savings of scarce government resources. A technology framework would cover areas such as:

**Project Administration:** A Web-based Portal for the project management of all

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NEPA related activities that will allow for customized reporting to the public of project status by all levels of a federal agency and across federal agencies.

**Work Flow Management:** A decision support process that leads the user through a series of steps to determine the appropriate type of document required to ensure compliance with NEPA and other laws and regulations.

**Document/Text Management:** A database approach to creating and maintaining NEPA documents authored by a variety of interdisciplinary specialists from within and outside of the federal agencies.

**Geographic Information System Management:** A system to identify, create and maintain data and make available to NEPA team members geographic information. With respect to land management planning, GIS technology is a vital component of a successful NEPA process. Virtually everything relative to a land management decision is spatial in nature. Most, if not all, federal agencies already employ GIS technology to conduct many of the analyses done in the development of these plans. Moreover, stakeholders in land management decisions also relate to location, they want to know what is being proposed and where it falls on the landscape. Location is often the focus of their comments and concerns.

**Interactive Document:** Administrative tools to control the creation of digital interactive documents designed to encourage and facilitate federal and non-federal partner participation. The interactive document links specific sections of text to specific features on maps, etc., allows users to "click" on features to see relevant text, and allows users to identify specific document text and see where in the landscape that text is relevant.

**Comment Submission/Content Analysis:** Should allow for the submission of more substantive comments through issues education and pre-categorizing of content subject. This will allow comment submissions to relate directly to text and to locations on the ground utilizing the interactive document.

**Record Keeping:** By using the tools described above on a consistent basis, an electronic record of administration will be automatically assembled without extra effort. Properly maintained, an official electronic record can be created.

**Output to Various Media:** Data and information are input only once into a database to create multiple "output" products—the paper document, the interactive document (Web/CD-ROM-based), and presentation materials.

It is our understanding that the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management "E-Gov for Planning and NEPA" project will adopt a technology template similar to the one

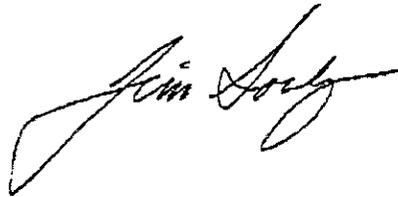
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outlined above and we encourage CEQ to examine that effort as you consider how to standardize the use of technology in the NEPA process across federal agencies.

WGA is a firm believer in the value of NEPA, but we are also of the firm belief that the NEPA process can be improved to the benefit of the environment. We hope the comments above are useful in your efforts and we look forward to working with you in this regard. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or require further information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James M. Souby

Attachments

cc: WGA Staff Council

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WESTERN  
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## Policy Resolution 02-07

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### *Principles for Environmental Management in the West*

Annual Meeting  
June 25, 2002  
Phoenix, Arizona

SPONSORS: Governors Kitzhaber and Leavitt

#### A. BACKGROUND

##### Vision Statement

1. The people of the West face a common challenge. The quality of life we cherish is threatened in part by our own successes as our rapid growth impacts much of the environmental quality and many of the natural resource systems that characterize our region. A number of factors illustrate the change that is occurring.
  - Throughout the 1990s, the population growth rate in the Western United States has surpassed that of every other region of the country, in part because of the draw of the Western quality of life and magnificent landscapes. Population mobility and growth and the resulting increased diversity in values are changing both the political dynamics and the region's economy.
  - While its historic base of natural resource-related industries, such as farming, fishing, mining, and wood products, remains important, the West has diversified dramatically and now counts telecommunications, tourism, recreation services, transportation, information technologies, software and entertainment companies among its larger employers.
  - Globalization of markets, changing preferences, substitute materials, and availability of natural resources have affected the competitiveness and resiliency of many Western communities. Communities must work to retool, adjust and diversify to remain competitive.
  - At the same time, the nature of environmental and natural resource problems is changing. As large, easily identified sources of pollution are controlled, the threat to the environment has shifted to diffuse, numerous, and smaller-scale sources. Our sheer numbers and consumption habits make environmental progress increasingly dependent on the daily behaviors and decisions made by every individual.
  - Agricultural consolidation and dispersed development have affected land-use patterns resulting in a wide range of economic and environmental impacts. Impacts range from impaired air quality from increasing numbers

of commuters and miles traveled, to fragmented habitats and disrupted migration routes for wildlife. Good stewardship born of locally controlled and economically sustainable agriculture may also suffer.

- New computer and communications technologies, as well as new environmental monitoring and characterization technologies, create opportunities for innovative solutions to preserve and enhance the environment and communities of the West.

There is a lot at stake. Westerners enjoy majestic mountains, forests, streams and lakes, as well as beautiful deserts, plains and coastlines. This landscape includes the vast public lands, national parks and forests, wilderness areas and refuges, military bases, tribal lands, state and local public lands, and highly productive private lands. This landscape harbors a wide array of plant and animal life and nurtures a diverse population of people both physically and spiritually. The West's natural resource systems are a source of great wealth and beauty for the region, the nation and the world.

Westerners desire to create a region that will provide our children an extraordinary quality of life. This future embraces a shared sense of stewardship responsibility for our region's natural and cultural assets. It strives to ensure for present and future generations clean water and air, open lands that are beautiful, life-sustaining and productive, and proximity to public recreational opportunities. Equally important is an economy where people of any background or age have opportunities for education and high quality jobs and the ability to contribute to the well-being of their families and fellow citizens.

It must be clear that in implementing this vision, Westerners do not reject the goals and objectives of federal environmental laws, nor the appropriate role of federal regulation and enforcement as a tool to achieve those objectives. Westerners respect treaty rights, sovereignty, property rights and other legal rights, and recognize the responsibilities associated with those rights in addressing our common environmental challenges.

Our future includes a belief that we are better off if we can redirect energy away from polarized battles and toward solving our common problems. It is a vision of rebuilding trust, partnerships and community; of better understanding the cumulative effects of our actions; and of enhancing individual and collective environmental understanding and its associated stewardship. It includes individuals being able to pursue their objectives in ways that build community rather than disrupt it, and commitment to looking for win-win solutions sustainable over time.

2. Over the last decade, the Western Governors have experimented with a variety of ways to improve management of the environment of the West through

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collaborative processes. Valuable accomplishments have been achieved while lessons have been learned from development and implementation of the Park City Principles for Water Management, the High Plains Partnership, the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission and its successor the Western Regional Air Partnership, the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment, the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, the Texas Regional Water Supply Planning Process, Trails and Recreational Access for Alaska and the Wyoming Open Lands Initiative. These efforts have built on the collaborative process which has shown repeated promise, and have demonstrated that the environmental strategies that work best have strong commitment from state and local government, vested local support, and federal collaboration.

3. The Western Governors' Association and the White House Council on Environmental Quality co-sponsored the Environmental Summit on the West II in Salt Lake City in April 2002. The purpose of the Summit was to engage government leaders and diverse stakeholder to review the issues facing the West and to examine how the principles below adopted by the Governors in 1999 were assisting in addressing the challenges faced by the West and how they may continue to do so in the future.
4. In summary, mindful of our rich Western heritage, recognizing the need to sustain a vibrant Western economy, convinced of the importance of protecting and enhancing the environment for the well-being of present and future generations, and acknowledging the benefits of existing and new approaches to environmental management, Governors and other Westerners with diverse experience have agreed to the principles that follow. The principles have come to be known as the Enlibra principles, Enlibra being a newly created word meaning balance and stewardship.

## **B. GOVERNORS' POLICY STATEMENT**

1. The Western Governors renew their commitment to the Enlibra principles to guide natural resource and environmental policy development and decision-making in the West. The doctrine is based upon the principles below, each of which is dependent upon the others. The integration of these principles is critical to their interpretation and the success of the new doctrine.

*National Standards, Neighborhood Solutions - Assign Responsibilities at the Right Level*

There is full acknowledgment that there are environmental issues of national interest ranging from management of public lands to air and water quality protection. Public processes are used to identify and protect the collective values of the nation's public. No existing laws or identified legal rights and

responsibilities are rejected. The role of the federal government is supported in passing laws that protect these values as well as setting national standards and objectives that identify the appropriate uses and levels of protection to be achieved. As the federal government sets national standards, they should consult with the states, tribes and local governments as well as other concerned stakeholders in order to access data and other important information. When environmental standards have not been historically within the federal jurisdiction, non-federal governments retain their standard setting and enforcing functions to ensure consideration of unique, local-level circumstances and to ensure community involvement.

With standards and objectives identified, there should be flexibility for non-federal governments to develop their own plans to achieve them, and to provide accountability. Plans that consider more localized ecological, economic, social and political factors can have the advantage of having more public support and involvement and therefore can reach national standards more efficiently and effectively.

Governments should reward innovation and take responsibility for achieving environmental goals. They should support this type of empowerment for any level of government that can demonstrate its ability to meet or exceed standards and goals through locally or regionally tailored plans. The federal government should support non-federal efforts in this regard with funds and technical assistance. In the event that no government or community is progressing toward specific place-based plans, the federal government should become more actively involved in meeting the standards.

*Collaboration, Not Polarization - Use Collaborative Processes to Break Down Barriers and Find Solutions*

The regulatory tools we have been relying on over the last quarter of a century are reaching the point of diminishing returns. In addition, environmental issues tend to be highly polarizing, leading to destructive battles that do not necessarily achieve environmental goals. Successful environmental policy implementation is best accomplished through balanced, open and inclusive approaches at the ground level, where interested stakeholders work together to formulate critical issue statements and develop locally based solutions to those issues. Collaborative approaches often result in greater satisfaction with outcomes and broader public support, and can increase the chances of involved parties staying committed over time to the solution and its implementation. Additionally, collaborative mechanisms may save costs when compared with traditional means of policy development. Given the often local nature of collaborative processes, it may be necessary for public and private interests to provide resources to ensure these processes are transparent, have broad participation and are supported with good technical information.

*Reward Results, Not Programs - Move to a Performance-Based System*

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A clean and safe environment will best be achieved when government actions are focused on outcomes, not programs, and when innovative approaches to achieving desired outcomes are rewarded. Federal, state and local policies should encourage "outside the box" thinking in the development of strategies to achieve desired outcomes. Solving problems rather than just complying with programs should be rewarded.

*Science For Facts, Process for Priorities - Separate Subjective Choices from Objective Data Gathering*

Environmental science is complex and uncertainties exist in most scientific findings. In addressing scientific uncertainties that underlie most environmental issues and decisions, competing interests usually point to scientific conclusions supporting their view and ignore or attack conflicting or insufficient information. This situation allows interests to hold polarized positions, and interferes with reconciling the problems at hand. It may also leave stakeholders in denial over readily perceived environmental problems. This in turn reduces public confidence and raises the stridency of debate. Critical, preventive steps may never be taken as a result, and this may lead to more costly environmental protection than would otherwise be required.

A better approach is to reach agreement on the underlying facts as well as the range of uncertainty surrounding the environmental question at hand before trying to frame the choices to be made. This approach should use a public, balanced and inclusive collaborative process and a range of respected scientists and peer-reviewed science. Such a process promotes quality assurance and quality control mechanisms to evaluate the credibility of scientific conclusions. It can also help stakeholders and decision-makers understand the underlying science and its limitations before decisions are made. If a collaborative process among the stakeholders does not resolve scientific disagreements, decision-makers must evaluate the differing scientific information and make the difficult policy choices. Decision-makers should use ongoing scientific monitoring information to adapt their management decisions as necessary.

*Markets Before Mandates - Pursue Economic Incentives Whenever Appropriate*

While most individuals, businesses, and institutions want to protect the environment and achieve desired environmental outcomes at the lowest cost to society, many environmental programs require the use of specific technologies and processes to achieve these outcomes. Reliance on the threat of enforcement action to force compliance with technology or process requirements may result in adequate environmental protection. However, market-based approaches and economic incentives often result in more efficient and cost-effective results and may lead to more rapid compliance. These approaches also reward environmental

performance, promote economic health, encourage innovation and increase trust among government, industry and the public.

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*Change A Heart, Change A Nation - Environmental Understanding is Crucial*

Governments at all levels can develop policies, programs and procedures for protecting the environment. Yet the success of these policies ultimately depends on the daily choices of our citizens. Beginning with the nation's youth, people need to understand their relationship with the environment. They need to understand the importance of sustaining and enhancing their surroundings for themselves and future generations. If we are able to achieve a healthy environment, it will be because citizens understand that a healthy environment is critical to the social and economic health of the nation. Government has a role in educating people about stewardship of natural resources. One important way for government to promote individual responsibility is by rewarding those who meet their stewardship responsibilities.

*Recognition of Benefits and Costs - Make Sure All Decisions Affecting Infrastructure, Development and Environment are Fully Informed*

The implementation of environmental policies and programs should be guided by an assessment of the costs and benefits of different options across the affected geographic range. To best understand opportunities for win-win solutions, cost and benefit assessments should look at life-cycle costs and economic externalities imposed on those who do not participate in key transactions. These assessments can illustrate the relative advantages of various methods of achieving common public goals. However, not all benefits and costs can be easily quantified or translated into dollars. There may be other non-economic factors such as equity within and across generations that should also be fully considered and integrated into every assessment of options. The assessment of options should consider all of the social, legal, economic and political factors while ensuring that neither quantitative nor qualitative factors dominate.

*Solutions Transcend Political Boundaries - Use Appropriate Geographic Boundaries for Environmental Problems*

Many of the environmental challenges in the West cross political and agency boundaries. For example, environmental management issues often fall within natural basins. These are often transboundary water or air sheds. Focusing on the natural boundaries of the problem helps identify the appropriate science, possible markets, cross-border issues, and the full range of affected interests and governments that should participate and facilitate solutions. Voluntary interstate strategies as well as other partnerships are important tools as well.

2. The Western Governors invite state, local and Native American leaders, environmental organizations, the private sector, Congress and the Administration to embrace these principles in their environmental and natural resources policy work and decision-making.

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C. GOVERNORS' MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

1. The Western Governors' Association (WGA) shall post this resolution on its Web site to be used and referred to as necessary.
2. WGA shall incorporate these principles into its projects and activities in environmental and natural resources policy development and shall work with the states to identify specific areas where they have been demonstrated and adopted or may be in the future. As resources allow and in conjunction with its Enlibra Steering and Advisory Committees, WGA shall promote the principles and engage and evaluate appropriate projects that seek to advance its principles. Also, as resources allow, WGA shall communicate the commitment of the Governors to these principles to organizations, institutions and media concerned with environmental protection and natural resources management.

*This resolution was originally adopted in 1999 as WGA Policy Resolution 99-013*

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Approval of a WGA resolution requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of the Directors present at the meeting. Dissenting votes, if any, are indicated in the resolution. The Board of Directors is comprised of the governors of Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

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WESTERN  
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## Policy Resolution 02-08

### *Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act*

Annual Meeting  
June 25, 2002  
Phoenix, Arizona

SPONSORS: Governors Geringer and Martz

#### A. BACKGROUND

1. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as originally passed in 1969, is our national charter for protection of the environment. The Act and subsequent regulations establish policy, set goals, and provide the means for carrying out the policy. By requiring that environmental information be available, the Act has been an important mechanism for opening up governmental decision-making to consider state, local, tribal and public input on the environmental impacts of human activities. However, this requirement has been clarified and limited by regulation which states: "Most important, NEPA documents must concentrate on the issues that are truly significant to the action in question, rather than amassing needless detail." (NEPA, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, 1500.1 (b))
2. Concerns have been raised about the operation of NEPA and how it can be more effectively implemented. Too often, NEPA's requirements have resulted in duplicative environmental analyses of projects by multiple federal agencies. In addition, each federal agency has developed its own set of NEPA regulations and processes which further adds confusion and complexity. In some cases, NEPA also has been misused by forcing lengthy delays -- especially at the "eleventh hour" -- after many hours have been spent studying, analyzing, planning and developing projects.
3. The Western Governors' Association (WGA) has noted from a variety of sources that broad-based concerns are being expressed by a wide variety of stakeholders concerning the implementation of NEPA by the federal agencies. Suggestions for improving the NEPA process have focused on:
  - shortening the decision-making time frame;
  - reducing duplication of efforts by multiple agencies;
  - making the Act more workable and efficient;
  - providing for greater consistency among agencies;
  - improving public input process through the use of technology or other means;

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- reducing the overall volume of paperwork;
  - simplifying the process to reflect experience since 1969;
  - improving procedures for coordinating NEPA review with similar state processes; and
  - allowing state agencies to act as joint leads in preparing Environmental Impact Statements with federal agencies so more accurate state specific data in federal EISs can be assured.
4. In February 2002, White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Chairman James L. Connaughton sent a memorandum to the heads of all federal agencies which emphasizes the importance of including state, tribal and local governmental entities in the preparation of federal Environmental Impact Statements (EISs). This guidance document is designed to ensure that state, tribal and local governments are included as "cooperating agencies" whenever appropriate during federal environmental reviews. NEPA requires federal agencies responsible for preparing NEPA analyses and documentation do so in cooperation with state and local governments and other agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise.

## **B. GOVERNORS' POLICY STATEMENT**

1. The Governors believe that the broad goals and objectives of the NEPA are important and have improved the overall quality of decisions by federal agencies. The Act's intended purposes - to provide meaningful public input, analyze the environmental impact of actions, and provide for appropriate review of decisions - are all important and should be continued in the future. Administrative improvements in the NEPA process should focus on:
- improving the sharing among agencies of high quality model NEPA documents;
  - improving, possibly through the use of technology such as geographic information systems or other decision support tools, early public input process - scoping, public disclosure, etc.;
  - better utilizing collaborative learning and shared understanding;
  - improving training for agency personnel in NEPA implementation;
  - utilizing 'plain English' throughout the process to create a user friendly document;

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- expanding the use of 'technical reports' to supplement environmental assessment issues and reduce the need to complete EISs;
  - seeking approval of EA/EISs at lower administrative levels in the agencies; and,
  - identifying, through public input and scientific data, the most efficient and consistent level and scope of analysis.
2. Training of agency personnel and the public (where appropriate) has often been lacking or insufficient. The Governors support and encourage federal agencies to provide timely and appropriate NEPA training for their employees, state and local officials and the public.
  3. Western Governors are pleased that CEQ is emphasizing to federal agencies the importance of cooperating agency status and we urge state agencies to accept that status whenever possible. Western Governors request that CEQ share information and consult with WGA on the efforts of federal agencies to meet the requirements of CEQ's February 2002 memorandum so the Governors can assist CEQ in fully implementing its direction.

#### C. GOVERNORS' MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE

1. This resolution shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Council on Environmental Quality, the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, and the House Resources Committee.
2. WGA shall report to the Governors periodically on the status of efforts under this resolution particularly regarding cooperating agency status.

*This resolution was originally adopted in 1999 as WGA policy resolution 99-019*

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