
* E I S NEWSLETTER *
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April 10, 1973
No. I-1

This is the first in a series of newsletters regarding the environmental impact statement (EIS). Further editions of this newsletter will possibly be provided once a week. Through such a publication, the Office of Environmental Quality Control hopes to inform various governmental agencies, interested civic groups, and the concerned individuals about procedures for EIS, as well as provide information about the impact statements currently being processed by our Office. For further information concerning items in this newsletter, please contact the Office of Environmental Quality Control, 550 Halekaiwila Street, Room 301, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, phone 548-6915.

BACKGROUND INFORMATIONAL NOTES

Requirements: In his Executive Order of August 23, 1971, Governor John A. Burns required the preparation and filing of EIS for all major projects requiring State funds or State lands. OEQC was designated as the clearinghouse agency for the receipt and review of these statements. The Governor's Executive Order was modeled after the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA of 1969, Public Law 96-190), which "requires each Federal agency to prepare a statement of environmental impact in advance of each major action, recommendation or report on legislation that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment".

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS - Purpose: The purpose of the EIS is to insure that full consideration of environmental consequences is provided by State agencies and to assure timely public information concerning major State actions. It is also a tool which is utilized to obtain information and recommendations in the form of responses to the draft statement. The intended goal of the environmental impact statement procedure is two-fold: to gain foresight into the consequences of a proposed action and with this knowledge to provide preventive measures and/or counteractions which would mitigate environmental degradation.

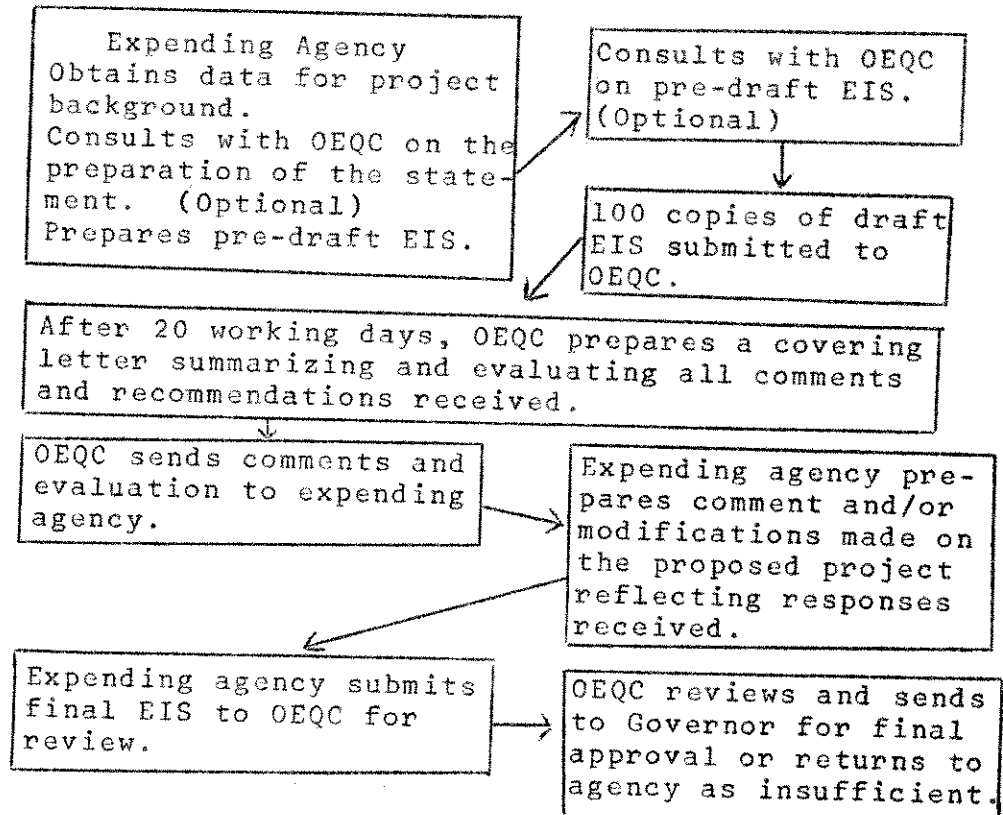
Contents: The EIS contains five sections:

- (1) The environmental impact of a proposed project.
- (2) Any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented.
- (3) Alternatives to the proposed action.

- (4) The relationship between local short-term uses of man's environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.
- (5) Any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the proposed action.

A sixth, strongly recommended section would be an analysis of the economic and social impact of the proposed project.

Procedures:



OTHER TYPES OF STATEMENTS - The broad range of State actions will invariably raise questions as to what constitutes a "major" action or a "significant" impact. To minimize divergent interpretations of the words "major" and "significant", other formats for impact statements have been created. These include:

Environmental Statement of Non-Impact - Includes proposed actions which would have minimal effects on the environment and/or may modify the function of a facility on an existing site, but would not alter its original purpose. Such actions would include minor replacement of/or addition to an existing facility, or minimal augmentation to enhance the function of a facility, that shall not exceed the limits of Federal, State County standards of air, water, noise quality, and also, would not alter the intended or original purpose of the existing facility.

Request for Exemption from Preparing an EIS - Proposed actions which are minor, having no significant detrimental impact on the environment and/or actions of a maintenance or operational nature. Such proposed actions would include but not be limited to:

- (a) Substituting or replacing minor existing facilities.
- (b) Minor reparations that would not alter or modify the intended function at that facility.
- (c) Operations that are part of routine operation or maintenance procedure.
- (d) State funded actions which involve no physical impact on the environment.
- (e) Temporary or interim actions and/or projects (for a duration of less than one year) with minimal adverse impacts (emergency actions).

Both a statement of non-impact and a request for exemption should include a brief description of the proposed action, the environmental impacts of the proposed action and the reasons for filing a non-impact statement or exemption.

Procedures:

Expending Agency

Gathers necessary data on proposed project.
Determines what type of EIS to file.

Consults with OEQC. (Optional)

Submits three copies of the statement to OEQC.

OEQC Process

(10 working days)

Evaluates statement.

Obtains comments and recommendations from other governmental and civic organizations. (Optional)

Obtains additional information.

OEQC concurs with the request or the submittal of the non-impact statement.

OEQC disapproves with the submittal of a non-impact statement or request for exemption.

OEQC formally requests additional information.

Return to Expending Agency

Environmental Assessment - OEQC encourages the submittal of an environmental assessment prior to the preparation of an environmental impact statement. The environmental assessment is a preliminary evaluation which should be conducted during the early planning stages of a project. The assessment would allow an initial evaluation of the proposed project by various governmental agencies and concerned parties with the purpose of (1) obviating environmental degradation and undue expense, should such a proposal be found unsound; (2) affirming the goals, needs or demands for such a project, and (3) providing ample time for other alternatives to be considered.

More information about EIS will be provided in future newsletters.

EIS REGISTER

This section of the newsletter is provided to inform the reader of the current environmental impact statements being processed by our Office. Should the reader be interested in reviewing and commenting on these statements, please contact our Office.

Draft Environmental Impact Statements

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Expending or Initiating Agency</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Suspense Date</u>
1. Kahoma Stream Flood Control Project	Lahaina, Maui	U.S. Corps of Engineers	The proposed project consists of a revetted outlet, major realignment and construction of about 5,280 feet of concrete-lined trapezoidal section channel, reconstruction of three bridges, a diversion levee, and a rock sill and debris basin at the upper limits of the project area. The improvements are designed to provide protection to the flood-prone northern section of Lahaina, Maui.	4/10
2. Pukalani Elementary School Site Selection	Pukalani, Maui	Department of Accounting and General Services	Site selection for the proposed Pukalani Elementary School. The EIS was prepared for a specific site chosen for the proposed project.	4/11
3. Flood Control for the Maikua Uka Area	Hilo, Hawaii	Department of Public Works, County of Hawaii	The proposed project consists of a diversion of Palai Stream into Four Mile Creek, a channel to carry the combined flows of the Palai Stream and the Four Mile Creek, a detention dam and injection wells would provide flood protection for the low density residential area at South Hilo.	4/24

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Expending or Initiating Agency</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Suspense Date</u>
4. Milliani Kai Elementary School	Milliani, Oahu	Department of Accounting and General Services	Site Selection Study for the proposed Milliani Kai Elementary School. The FIS was prepared for a specific site chosen for the proposed project.	5/4

Final Environmental Impact Statement

1. Construction of Sewage Collection System and East Water Reclamation Plant	Lahaina, Maui	Department of Public Works, County of Maui	The proposed project for the construction of a sewer interceptor system for an area extending from Lahaina Town to Napili and a waste water reclamation plant at Honokowai.	Currently being reviewed by this Office.
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Environmental Statements of Non-Impact

1. Iokapu Saddle Road Relief Drain	Kaneohe, Oahu	Department of Public Works, City & County of Honolulu via Department of Transportation	The proposed relief drain project will consist of approximately 230 lineal feet of reinforced concrete box culvert and approximately 620 lineal feet of reinforced concrete drain pipe. The water will be discharged into Kaneohe Bay.	4/12
2. Motor Vehicle Control Inspection Station Under Kapolei-Kapahulu Overpass- Interstate Highway	Honolulu, Oahu	City and County of Honolulu	The project will consist of a one-story masonry walled building with a total floor area of 320 square feet, there will be paved parking stalls for 26 vehicles. Project will provide inspection services to all vehicles requiring police inspection for safety and noise control.	4/18

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Expending or Initiating Agency</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Suspense Date</u>
3. Kinau Street Reconstruction, Alapai Street to Makiki Street	Honolulu, Oahu	Department of Public Works, City & County of Honolulu via State Department of Transportation	New concrete gutters will be constructed. The existing curbing will be reset or new curbing constructed, as required by new roadway grades, new sidewalks, driveways and driveway ramps will replace existing ones as necessary. Other work includes adjustments to existing sewer, water and storm drainage facilities. Adjustments to existing electrical, telephone and gas facilities will be done by the respective utility companies.	Currently being reviewed by OEQC 4/12
4. Hilo Hospital Helicopter Landing Pad	Hilo, Hawaii	Department of Accounting and General Services	Construction of an intermittent use heliport on the grounds of Hilo Hospital for mobilizing the ill or injured by helicopter.	4/16
5. August Ahrens Elementary School New Recreational Field	Waipahu, Oahu	Department of Accounting and General Services	Construction of a recreation field approximately 100,000 sq. feet (340' x 300') with a sprinkler system and chain link fencing.	4/16
6. Pali Highway Lights	Pali Tunnel to Waimanalo Junction, Oahu	Department of Transportation	This project will provide approximately 62 additional twin arm 30' high, 400 watt mercury luminaries in the median and approximately 19 single arms in the Mt. Olomano area.	4/12

Request for Exemption

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Expending Agency</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Suspense Date For Reply To Expending Agency</u>
1. Police Radio Station for the County of Maui	County-wide	Police Department County of Maui	Upgrading by supplementing and improving the existing County of Maui two-way F.M. Radio System.	4/12
2. Hanalei Highway	Kaunapali, Maui	Department of Transportation	The purpose of these borings is to obtain information the exist- ing subsurface soil conditions and provide a basis for the determina- tion of the most suitable and economical design of the highway facility.	4/12

CURRENT HAPPENINGS

The Administration's measure concerning environmental impact statements will be acted upon by legislators during the final week of this legislative session. House Bill 1522 proposes to extend Environmental Impact Statement requirements to the County agencies as well as the private sector. By enveloping all levels of government and the private sector in the procedure, it is hoped that environmental consciousness will be enhanced and that this concern for a quality environment will result in mitigation of environmental degradation in the State.

A Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Pauahi Urban Renewal Project Has Been Received - This draft was prepared by the Department of Housing and Urban Development in compliance with NEPA; deadline date for responses to our Office is being set for April 24, 1973. Because of the limited number of copies available, this Office has not distributed this second draft. The first draft EIS was prepared by the Honolulu Redevelopment Agency. These two draft statements are quite different from each other, therefore comments or recommendations should be provided on both draft statements. Although this Office is not the clearinghouse for the HUD's draft statement we will be providing a reply to the Department of Housing and Urban Development from the responses we receive as well as transmitting copies of all responses to HUD.

UPCOMING DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

Kaneohe Intermediate School (site selection), Keeli Golf Course (Kona), Lanakila Health Center (new building), Honolulu District Court (relocation), Sand Island State Parks, Kalama Uka Elementary School (site selection), and Kahuluu Flood Control Project.

This being the first newsletter, we invite our reviewers to provide comments and suggestions about the newsletter's format, contents, or possible additions. Please feel free to contact our Office should you require additional information about impact statements mentioned in this newsletter.