Social and Community Effects Decision Matrix for Complex Projects

Answer the questions below to determine how to “right size” your analysis for an EA or EIS level project.

1. Does the primary work activity meet one or more of the criteria for projects unlikely to affect social, economic, or Environmental Justice resources?
   ___ Yes: **No further analysis needed**; document in ECS question 7a of the Environmental Considerations tab.
   ___ No: Go to Step 2.

2. Are there protected populations within the project study area?
   - For DCE projects: see TSK 458-b: Collecting Demographic Data.
   - For EA/EIS projects: See TSK 458-a and 458-b
   ___ Yes: **EJ analysis required**. Go to Step 3.
   ___ No: **No further analysis needed**. Attach census data and school demographic data to ECS.

3. Are there substantial right of way requirements?
   ___ Yes: Acquisitions affect > 10% of the parcels, require whole parcels, require relocations, or are concentrated in a single neighborhood. Go to Steps 4 and 5.
   ___ No: Acquisitions affect < 10% of the parcels, are sliver takes and distributed evenly throughout the project area. **No further analysis needed**. Document limited nature of right of way acquisitions in letter to file.

4. Does the proposed project require any residential relocations?
   ___ Yes: Do residential relocations affect > 25 homes or > 10% of the population within the study area? **Social Analysis required**. If EJ analysis required, determine if the social impacts are “disproportionately high and adverse”. Go to Step 5.
   ___ No: Go to Step 5

5. Does the proposed project require any business relocations?
   ___ Yes: Go to Step 6.
   ___ No: **No Economic analysis required**. Document limited nature of relocation in a letter to file.

6. Do business relocations adversely affect major employers in the study area?
   ___ Yes: Economic effects are likely if the project substantially changes access, travel time, or travel patterns; or adversely impacts > 10% of the permanent jobs in the study area (interview local agency planners to determine percentage.) **Economic analysis is required**.
If an EJ population is present, determine if the economic effects are “disproportionately high and adverse. Go to Step 7.

*** No: **No Economic analysis required.** Document limited nature of economic analysis in a letter to file.

7. Does the proposed project result in short-term adverse effects to:
   a. Noise or vibration impacts to sensitive receptors within the study area?  __ Yes, __ No
   b. Air quality impacts?  __ Yes, __ No
   c. Changes in access to/from residences or businesses?  __ Yes, __ No
   d. Will the project require a detour?  __ Yes, __ No
   e. Create utility cuts due to utility relocations?  __ Yes, __ No
   f. Reduce community cohesion or access to public services?  __ Yes, __ No
   g. Have greater than *de minimus* Impact Section 4(f) properties?  __ Yes, __ No

If you answered “Yes” to any of questions 7a-g, discuss the short-term social effect of the environmental impacts in the Social analysis. If an EJ population is present, determine if the short-term effects will be “disproportionate, high and adverse.”

If you answered “No” to all questions 7a-g, document the limited nature of the impacts in the appropriate section of the environmental document.

8. Does the proposed project result in long-term (permanent) adverse environmental effects to:
   a. Noise or vibration to sensitive receptors in the study area?  __ Yes, __ No
   b. Air quality impacts?  __ Yes, __ No
   c. Changes in access to/from residences or businesses?  __ Yes, __ No
   d. Reduce community cohesion or access to public services?  __ Yes, __ No
   e. Have greater than *de minimus* Impact Section 4(f) properties?  __ Yes, __ No

If you answered “Yes” to any of the questions in 8a-e, discuss the long-term Social effects of the environmental impacts in the Social analysis. If an EJ population is present, determine if the long-term effects will be “disproportionate, high and adverse.”

If you answered “No” to all of questions 8a-e, document the limited nature of the impacts in the appropriate section of the environmental document.

9. If you answered “no” to question 1 and “yes” to questions 4, 6, 7 and 8, substantial documentation may be needed to support your conclusions consider writing a Social and Community Effects Discipline report. If, in addition, you also answered “yes” to question 2, the discipline report must include an EJ analysis and determine if there are “disproportionately high and adverse effects.”