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Agency: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

Document Type: Rulemaking

Title: Update to the Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act

Document ID: CEQ-2019-0003-0001

Comment:

As a mother and an American citizen, I strongly object to the Council on Environmental Quality's proposed changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations. NEPA is a bedrock law intended to protect people and the environment not just now but in the future, too. Your proposal to streamline environmental reviews so that road, airport, pipeline, and other projects can be fast-tracked is not consistent with NEPA.

Some of the unacceptable proposed changes include narrowing the range of actions and projects that would require NEPA review, eliminating the requirement to evaluate cumulative effects, removing conflict-of-interest protections, limiting the obligation for agencies to obtain necessary information, and allowing actions to take place before the NEPA process is completed.

In 1969, the 91st Congress enacted the National Environmental Policy Act to address the climate crisis that they and the American people foresaw fifty years ago. Now, in 2020, the climate crisis is not a distant problem that may or may not occur it is already upon us.

NEPA regulations cannot be modernized without addressing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change as part of the process.

My children and yours will be affected all their lives by what you do, now. I respectfully suggest that you need to go back to the drawing board and craft regulations that implement NEPA not impede it.

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