



Project Development Process

Any state agency proposing a project that uses public funds and may have a potential detrimental environmental effect must comply with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Under SEPA, an agency must study the adverse and beneficial environmental impacts of alternatives that meet a project's purpose and need, identify the preferred alternative, and discuss the reasons for eliminating an alternative. This planning process is divided into the steps described below. This project is currently in the early stages of **Step 4**.

- STEP 1:** Data collection and inventory of planning issues
Study area/preliminary corridor development
- STEP 2:** First Citizens Informational Workshop
Documentation of community concerns
Selection of alternatives for detailed study
- STEP 3:** Preliminary design and detailed field studies
Engineering/environmental analysis
- STEP 4:** State Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS)
Corridor Public Hearing
- STEP 5:** Review comments on the SDEIS
Review public comments and hearing transcript
Selection of the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA)
- STEP 6:** Preliminary design refinement
Additional field studies
(Please Note: NCDOT personnel will require access to private property in order to conduct field studies.)
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
Record of Decision (ROD)
- STEP 7:** Design Public Hearing
- STEP 8:** Detailed Design
- STEP 9:** Right of way acquisition
- STEP 10:** Final design
- STEP 11:** Project construction