

The New EAFs

EAFs for the 21st Century

Instructions for reading the Presenter's Notes:

1) Internet Explorer x, xx: Place your cursor in upper left hand corner on the red colered Call-Out box, left click on Call-Out Box.

2) Mozilla Firefox xx: Place your cursor in upper left hand corner, right click with your mouse/cursor on red Call-Out Box.

3) Chrome xx: Place your cursor in upper right hand side of browser's window, click on the Adobe icon, convert to Adobe Reader, then follow instructions above for Internet Explorer and/or Mozilla Firefox.

4) To avoid Browser issues, right click on the Power Point Presentation's Link within the web-page, download the file to your Hard Drive, a folder where you will remember to reopen, name file "New EAF Webinar Presentation", and follow the above instructions for Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox. Please make sure you have updated your Adobe Reader for full functions.

EAF Webinar Spring 2014



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Welcome

- Online version of a webinar introducing the revised Full & Short EAFs and the interactive tools.
- Five live webinars were conducted during April & May of 2014.
- It should take approximately 1 Hr. to complete the exercise.





Objectives

- History of the EAFs
- Interactive Features
- User Tips
- EAF Mapper Demonstration
- Questions





- EAFs first adopted in 1978 version of SEQR
- Have remained relatively unchanged until 2012 even though the environmental assessment process has seen major changes
- Revised model EAF forms were adopted by the Commissioner on January 25, 2012
- Effective date of forms was established as October 7, 2013, so that workbooks and GIS platform could be prepared



New Tools Developed by DEC in 2013

- Web based Full EAFs & Short EAFs were developed
- Companion workbooks for both EAF were written, and
- A software platform called "EAF Mapper" was also developed



Revised EAFs

Short and Full EAFs are easy to find on our web site
EAFs are fill and save PDFs
Full EAF uses "Gate Keeper" questions that permit the user to skip irrelevant questions



Gate Keeper Question

From Full EAF

 h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage?

• If Yes,

iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment.

Volume: _____ million gallons; surface area: ______ acres
 v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: ______ height; ______
 length

vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete):



EAF Workbooks

- Workbooks are intended to:
 - Guide sponsors in preparing Part 1;
 - Guide lead agency in reviewing Parts 2 & 3
- Workbooks provide links to spatial data (e.g., maps) and other sources of information
- Workbooks make generous use of examples
- Short EAF should not require consultant services to complete



Example of the Revised EAF

SEAF, Part 1, Question 4

Check all land uses that occur, on, adjoining and near the proposed action? Urban ? Rural (non-ag)? Industrial? Commercial? Residential (Suburban)? Forest? Agriculture? Aquatic? Parkland? Other?

Workbook help in answering the questions!





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New EAF Mapper

The New EAF Mapper:

- Developed to fill in many spatial data questions on the Short and Full EAFs
- System will check over 50 spatial data sets and fill in select EAF questions
- EAFs can be saved and completed
- System was designed to grow





New EAF Mapper

What You Should Expect to See





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SEQR

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Outdoor Activities

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SEQR - NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation

State

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Education

Permit, License, Registration SEQR

State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) Forms

Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) Workbooks

Introduction to SEQR

Stepping Through the SEQR Process

SEQR Handbook

"EIS on the Web" Requirement

Critical Environmental Areas

SEQR Regulatory Documents SEQR Publications

Commissioner Decisions on Lead Agency Disputes

Public Involvement and News

Regulations and Enforcement

Publications, Forms, Maps

About DEC

Environmental Impact Assessment in New York State

In New York State, most projects or activities proposed by a state agency or unit of local government, and all discretionary approvals (permits) from a NYS agency or unit of local government, require an environmental impact assessment as prescribed by 6 NYCRR Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR). [Statutory authority: Environmental Conservation Law Sections 3-0301(1)(b), 3-0301(2)(m) and 8-0113]. SEQR requires the sponsoring or approving governmental body to identify and mitigate the significant environmental impacts of the activity it is proposing or permitting.

Environmental assessments are standardized through use of the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF). The Environmental Assessment Forms are in a pdf format that can be filled and saved. To assist applicants in preparing the Part 1 of either the Short or Full EAF, we have developed a GIS mapping program (the EAF Mapper) that searches spatial data bases and provides answers to location-based questions which are automatically filled onto a pdf copy of an EAF and provided to the user. The spatial data used by the EAF mapping program to complete the new EAFs is based on the GIS data sets used and maintained by DEC, or actively maintained by various agencies and shared with DEC.

In addition to the EAF Mapper, we provide links to forms and guidance publications, as well as links to technical information and support For example, the Environmental Resource Mapper (ERM), another web based interactive mapping application, can be used to locate both freshwater wetlands regulated by the State of New York, and New York State's classified streams and water bodies. Technical information is also available on the Division of Water's pages regarding Storm Water and Erosion and Sediment Control which, in addition to being part of a required permit set for most projects that will require a SEQR assessment, present related concepts pertinent to the topic of environmental impact assessment.

On completing an EAF, the lead agency determines the significance of an action's environmental impacts. The agency then decides whether to require (or prepare) an Environmental Impact Statement and whether to hold a public hearing on the proposed action.

Other links on this page take you to:

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Important Links

Search DEC

Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on the Proposed Amendments to SEQR (PDF 310 kb)

Climate Change Guidance Documents

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Frequently Asked Questions

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Regarding the SEQR

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Home » Permit, License, Registration » SEQR » State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) Forms

State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) Forms

All Downloadable SEQR Forms are PDF Files

The following Environmental Assessment Forms (Appendices A and B) should be used (as of October 7, 2013) for applications to be submitted to reviewing, funding or approving agencies. If you are new to filling out the EAFs or using the EAF Mapper, or have questions about how to use them, we recommend that you begin with the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) Workbooks. EAF forms can be filled out and saved with Acrobat Reader.

EAF Mapper Application (will generate partially filled-in EAFs)

The EAF Mapper Application is an Internet-based Geographic Information System (GIS) specifically designed to facilitate the NY State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process by answering geographic or place-based questions on the Short and Long Environmental Assessment Forms (EAFs). The EAF Mapper will provide its results by directly filling out many place-based questions in Part 1 of an electronically fillable SEAF or FEAF form and returning the partially completed form to the applicant or sponsor to finish.

If you are using the EAF Mapper, do not complete any part of a PDF for either the SEAF or FEAF first. Rather, start with the EAF Mapper and wait for the program to fill in the various answers, then save the document to your computer and continue completing the forms from there. If you start a PDF before running the EAF Mapper, any information entered will be lost when the program applies its GIS data. Help in using the EAF Mapper application is located on the EAF Mapper Application's main page next to "feedback". Additional guidance can be found in the EAF Workbook, under the subsection "Using the EAF Mapper".

- Short Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF) (172 KB) (Appendix B to 6 NYCRR 617.20)
- Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) (Appendix A to 6 NYCRR 617.20)
 - o FEAF Part 1 (502 KB)
 - o FEAF Part 2 (564 KB)
 - o FEAF Part 3 (65 KB)





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Coastal Assessment Form

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617.20 Appendix B Short Environmental Assessment Form

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 - Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency, attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Name of Action of Project.				
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map)				
Brief Description of Proposed Action:				
Name of Applicant or Sponsor	elephone		Pleas	se Describe Proposed Action
E	-Mail:		-	
Address:			-	
City/PO:	State:	Zıp Code:		
 Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, loca administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a marative description of the intent of the proposed action and the may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to que 	el law, ordinance, e environmental resources the estion 2,	at D	YES	
 Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any oth If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: 	er governmental Agency?	NO	YES	
3 a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?	actes acres acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on adjoining and near the proposed action. ☐ Urban □Rural (non-agriculture) □Industrial □Commerce □Forest □Agriculture □Aquatic □Other (spe □Parkland	ial 🔲 Residential (suburb ecify):	an)		
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18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of	NO	YES
water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?	A	1
If Yes, explain purpose and size:		
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed	NO	YES
solid waste management facility?	-	
If ies, describe:		
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or	NO	YES
completed) for hazardous waste?	-	-
If Yes, describe:	1	
I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE KNOWLEDGE	BEST O	FMY
Applicant/sponsor name: Date:		_
Signature:	in Data	1

Part 2 - Impact Assessment. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 2. Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

		No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1	Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?		
2	Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?		
3.	Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?		
4.	Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?		
5.	Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?		
6.	Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?		
7.	Will the proposed action impact existing: a public / minute water supplies?		
	b, public / private wastewater treatment utilities?		
8	Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?		
9	Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?		

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	may occur	may occur	
 Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drain problems? 	lage		
11 Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	- + K		
question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental im Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elemen the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, duration, inversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short cumulative impacts.	I to explain why pact, please com to that have beer determined that probability of o -term, long-term	a particular uplete Part 3. a included by the impact counting. a and	
 Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse environmental impact statement is required. Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. 	any supporting o se impacts and a any supporting o	documentation, an documentation,	
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Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	No
Part 1 / Question 12a [National Register of Historic Places]	No
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	Yes- Digital mapping information on local and federal wetlands and waterbodies is known to be incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered]	Νο
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	Digital mapping data are not available or are incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	No

Short Environmental Assessment Form - EAF Mapper Summary Report

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User Tips

- Recommended Browsers
 IE 9 and above
 Firefox, Safari or Chrome
- Allow "Pop-ups" on Browser
- Run EAF Mapper first
- Save EAF to local drive





- Map icon in workbooks = EAF Mapper completed questions
- EAF Mapper is not designed for municipal-wide projects
- Expect 3 Minutes or less to run



User Tips (Cont.)

- EAF Mapper results are "Locked"
- Resource locations are buffered
- "No" response does not require additional review
- "Yes" response means that you need further review
- Refer to workbooks for more information





- This concludes our training program on the EAFs for today
- Play with the Mapper
- Visit the FAQ page
- Use the help button on EAF Mapper
- Submit any questions using the feedback button on the EAF Mapper or directly to: <u>depprmt@dec.ny.gov</u>





THANK YOU

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