

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
COLORADO STATE OFFICE
2850 YOUNGFIELD STREET
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80215-7093
November 6, 2003

In Reply Refer To:
CO-931
1610 (P)

EMS Transmission 11/06/2003
Instruction Memorandum No. CO-2004-013
Expires: 09/30/05

To: FO Managers
From: Deputy State Director, Resources and Fire
Subject: Governor's Consistency Reviews

A 60-day Governor's Consistency Review is required by 43 CFR 1610.3-2(e) for all Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and RMP Amendments. This review should be initiated at the same time as, or up to two weeks prior to issuing the proposed plan or plan amendment to the public. Therefore, the 30-day protest period, initiated when the proposed plan or amendment is issued, falls within the Governor's Consistency Review period. However, we should give the Governor the last word.

Requests for Governor's Consistency Reviews should be addressed to:

The Honorable Bill Owens, Governor
Office of Policy
Attention: Mr. John Swartout
136 State Capital
Denver, Colorado 80203

A copy of the letter requesting the Governor's Consistency review should be sent to the State Director.

Your request for review should include the following:

- advise Mr. Swartout of the regulations which require us to solicit the review,
- identify the local and State agencies that we have consulted with during the planning process, and that have been provided copies,

- state whether or not we have identified any inconsistencies with State and local plans, programs and policies, and if so, what was done (or will be done) to resolve those issues,
- advise that they need only respond if they find inconsistencies,
- request that they advise the Field Office Manager immediately if they find inconsistencies,

If an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared, include:

- copy of the EA/Proposed Plan Amendment, and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI),
- you may also include an unsigned copy of the Decision Record and the Notice of Availability that you are sending to your local media

If an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared, include:

- copy of the Final EIS/Proposed Plan Amendment (this can be a camera ready copy),
- copy of the Federal Register Notice of Availability

We may request an expedited review, but this should only be done sparingly, and only when we are certain that we have the support of all affected local and State agencies and elected officials. Our request for expedited review should ask that they send us written confirmation as soon as possible that our proposed action is consistent with local and State plans, programs and policies.

Include a copy of 43 CFR 1610.3-2(e) as an attachment to your request. (See attachment 1)

An example letter to the Governor is also included. (See attachment 2)

If you have questions regarding these instructions and Bureau of Land Management policy or procedures, please call Joe Stout at 303-239-3747. If you have questions regarding the State's review process, you may call John Swartout at 303-866-6338.

Signed by
R.S. Schmidt
Acting Deputy State Director
Resources and Fire

Authenticated by
Don Snow
EMS Operator

2 - Attachments

- 1 - Copy of 43 CFR
- 2 - Example Letter