

AGENDA ITEM IX - ACTION

November 18, 2009

NEP Assist Contract

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

NEP Assist is a web-based application that draws environmental data dynamically from EPA regions' Geographic Information System databases. In addition to providing a preliminary environmental assessment of a project's potential environmental impact, the tool includes a feature that enables scoping notices to be automatically sent to EPA for comment. Use of this software contributes to a streamlined review process that potentially raises important environmental issues at the earliest stages of project development.

FHWA is requesting that this tool be used in reviewing proposed projects for inclusion in planning documents. Since access to this web site may have sensitive data, the EPA is requesting that before access is granted to this web site, the entity gaining access would need to sign the NEP Assist contract.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) is requested to review the NEP Assist Contract and resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign the documents for the secure web-based access by the MPO staff.

ATTACHMENTS:

- NEPAssist Contract
- NEPAssist Resolution