



**Pacific  
Northwest**  
NATIONAL  
LABORATORY

*Proudly Operated  
by **Battelle** Since 1965*

## Setting the Standard for NEPA Environmental Impact Statements and Environmental Assessments

Every year, federal agencies produce thousands of Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and Environmental Assessments (EAs) as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA obligates agencies to outline potential environmental effects of federal projects or actions and provide reasonable alternatives to the actions.

For over three decades, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) has worked with federal agencies to conduct environmental reviews and produce scientifically credible, legally defensible, and consistently useful NEPA documents for the public and government decision makers. Years of working with the Department of Energy (DOE), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Department of Defense (DoD), and other agencies has provided PNNL with a unique perspective on the needs of federal clients. This includes a familiarity with the structure of government procurements and contractual systems and knowledge of the high level of quality and accountability required by these clients.

### PROVIDER OF CHOICE

For the last 30 years, PNNL has been one of the NRC's providers of choice to support its environmental reviews for existing and new power reactor facilities. Our staff has completed more than 40 EISs, EAs, and related documents for the NRC alone. The NRC selected PNNL as its lead laboratory for building the infrastructure to support NRC environmental reviews because of our breadth and depth of environmental and engineering expertise and confidence built on years of reliable assistance.

### EXPERTISE FOR MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS

PNNL seeks to produce NEPA documents that can help federal agencies make better, more informed decisions. We work interactively with clients and stakeholders throughout the NEPA process using tools and techniques that rigorously analyze the trade-offs between costs, public risks, and stakeholder values. Our NEPA expertise includes the following areas:

- ▶ Strategic planning for scope of work and scheduling efficiencies
- ▶ Interdisciplinary team management and assessment
- ▶ Cumulative impacts definition and assessment
- ▶ Synthesis of complex study findings
- ▶ Coordination with environmental laws (NHPA, ESA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

- ▶ EIS/EAs, biological assessments (BAs), biological evaluations, air conformity determinations, and endangered species consultation
- ▶ Public scoping and agency outreach
- ▶ Consultation and coordination with Tribes and interested parties
- ▶ Comment and response database development
- ▶ Expert witness testimony in mandatory and contested hearings
- ▶ Nationwide collaboration via Share-Point and Live Meeting technology

## NEPA LEADERS

PNNL offers a proven project management team with more than three decades of unmatched experience managing multiple large and controversial NEPA reviews. We create multidisciplinary teams drawing on hundreds of scientists and engineers with capabilities and experiences to assist agencies with complex NEPA reviews.

Our highly qualified, knowledgeable staff has expertise in every technical specialty necessary to complete the most scientifically challenging or legally demanding NEPA document.

We provide experienced teams specializing in ecology, hydrology, geology, meteorology, air quality, and land use. We also offer experts in socioeconomics and environmental justice, human health and safety, transportation, accident analyses, and cultural and historic resources as well as writers, editors, graphic designers, and document production experts.

PNNL also offers a proven infrastructure that supports large complex projects with effective cost and schedule controls, records management, and quality assurance and control.

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PNNL staff are skilled in a range of techniques and processes to ensure the constructive comprehensive involvement of stakeholders. We have arranged and facilitated hundreds of public meetings, often concerning contentious environmental issues. These issues include solid and hazardous waste management, energy facility siting, environmental remediation, competing demands for water resources, and geological and terrestrial sequestration of carbon dioxide.

## SAMPLE NEPA PROJECTS

Although PNNL has conducted numerous NEPA projects around the country, we are particularly skilled at addressing energy resource issues in the western United States. Our experience includes wind, hydroelectric, and nuclear energy.

Client	Project Examples
Bureau of Land Management	Characterizing and Predicting the Effect of Grazing on Vegetation, Soils, and Hydrology Fuel Classification Using Remote Sensing and Image Analysis
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Flathead Lake Drought Management Plan EIS Chiloquin Dam Removal EA
Department of Energy	Remediation of Uranium Mill Tailings EIS, Moab, UT Western Area Power Administration Energy Planning and Management Program EIS Wind Turbine Demonstration Project EA Wind Fuel Cell Hybrid EA Yucca Mountain Repository EIS
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Spokane River/Post Falls Hydroelectric Project License Renewal EIS Grays Harbor Pipeline Project
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	License Renewal New Reactor Licensing
Department of Defense	Pegasus Air-Launched Space Booster EA Transportation Impact Analysis for Tinker AFB Bio-Defense-Related Activities EA Phalanx Weapons System Test EA

## ABOUT PNNL

PNNL is located in Richland, Washington. The Laboratory employs 4,700 staff, has an annual budget of nearly \$1.1 billion, and has been managed by Ohio-based Battelle since the lab's inception in 1965.

In the quest for energy and environmental solutions, PNNL marshals interdisciplinary research teams, collaborates with a range of partners, and leverages research funding to maximize results. Our staff, facilities, capabilities, and approach to inquiry and innovation have established PNNL as a premier science and technology enterprise.

*For more information about our NEPA capabilities, contact:*

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