



Tips for Commenting on a Proposed National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Action

Comments may be the most important contribution from citizens. Use the guidelines below to make your comment most useful to the process.

- Comments should be clear, concise, and relevant to the analysis of the proposed action.
 - Substantive, solution-oriented comments that provide specific examples are more effective than those that simply oppose the proposed project.
- If applicable, comments that contribute to developing alternatives addressing the purpose and need for the action are also effective.
 - They are mainly helpful early in the NEPA process and are best made during scoping to ensure reasonable alternatives can be analyzed and considered then.
 - In drafting comments, focus on the proposed action's purpose and need, the proposed alternatives, and the environmental impact assessments for those alternatives. Bear in mind other types of issues the decisionmaker is considering in relationship to the proposed action.
- Understand that commenting is not a form of "voting" on an alternative. The number of negative comments an agency receives does not prevent an action from moving forward.
 - Many comments that repeat the same basic message of support or opposition will typically generate a collective response.
 - General comments that state an action will have "significant environmental effects" will not help an agency make a better decision unless the relevant causes and environmental effects are explained.
- Remember that decisionmakers also receive other data such as operational and technical information related to implementing an action that they must consider when making a final decision.

Above information summarized from A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA - Having Your Voice Heard. Council on Environmental Quality, Executive Office of the President. December 2007, Page 27. http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/NEPA/Citizens_Guide_Dec07.pdf

Where to send your Colorado Proposed Roadless Rule Comments

The Forest Service will be collecting written comments at the public open houses.

You can mail comments to: Roadless Area Conservation – Colorado
P.O. Box 162909
Sacramento, CA 95816-2909

You can FAX comments to 916-456-6724

You can e-mail comments to COcomments@fsroadless.org

Comments can also be submitted via the internet at www.regulations.gov