Environmental Compliance Readiness

Bucket 2 – Council Selected Restoration Component

PROPOSAL TITLE

Gulf of Mexico Estuary Program

LOCATION

Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida

SPONSOR(S)

EPA

TYPE OF FUNDING REQUESTED (Planning, Technical Assistance, Implementation):

Planning, Technical Assistance and Implementation

REVIEWED BY:

John Ettinger

DATE:

February 13, 2014

If Planning and/or Technical Assistance

1. Does the submission identify environmental laws potentially applicable at the implementation stage:

○ YES ◉ NO ○ N/A

Comments

A range of environmental laws could apply to the proposed activity. The Council could consider funding the planning and technical assistance portion of this submission separately from the implementation portion. If the planning and technical assistance portion of the submission is funded, the Council recommends the sponsor coordinate as early as possible with federal and state regulatory agencies to confirm all applicable regulatory requirements have been identified and help ensure such requirements are addressed as efficiently as possible. NEPA (if applicable) and other applicable environmental laws would need to be addressed prior to consideration by the Council of whether or not to fund the implementation portion of this submission. As discussed below, there is existing information pertaining to the applicability of NEPA for this submission.

If Implementation

1. Status of compliance with environmental laws applicable to a Council decision to include the submission on the Funded Priority List:

EPA is exempt from NEPA for the implementation activities proposed in this submission. Review of the applicability of EPA's NEPA exemption to a Council funding decision is needed. Other applicable environmental laws have not been addressed for the implementation portion of this submission. The Council could fund the planning and technical assistance portion of this submission, which could include completion of applicable environmental compliance activities. All applicable environmental laws would need to be addressed prior to consideration by the Council of whether or not to fund the implementation portion of this submission.