2.4 PROJECT CONSTRUCTION STAGE

The Project Construction Stage begins with the award process, which is administered by the Contact Management Bureau. For more information on bid analysis and awarding of projects refer to MAP 7.30.

2.5 CHANGING FUNDING SOURCE

The elimination of Federal funds from a project is not an issue since a project following the Federal-aid steps contain the necessary 100% state funded steps.

100% State funded projects that are switched to federal funds may require a substantial amount of work depending on the NEPA Class and how far along the project has been processed. The following guidance applies to projects that are switched to federal-aid after they have received design approval as a 100% state-funded projects under SEQR. Designers should contact their Regional Liaison Engineer in DQAB for further guidance.

2.5.1 NEPA Classification

Projects that are switched to federal aid after design approval should be progressed as follows under NEPA:

- Projects that received design approvals SEQR Type II, should be progressed as NEPA Class II projects (Categorical Exclusion).
- Projects that received design approval as SEQR Non-Type II (EA) with a “Determination Of No Significance” (DONSE), should be progressed as NEPA Class II (Categorical Exclusion).
- Projects that received design approval as SEQR Non-Type II (EIS), should be progressed as NEPA Class I (EIS).

Copies of the NEPA checklist and design approval document must be filed in accordance with the procedures in EPM Section 2.2.

If a public hearing was held under SEQR, a new hearing is not required using the NEPA Class II procedures.

2.5.2 Design Approval Documents

For 100% state funded projects that are switched to Federal aid (NEPA) after receiving design approval, the design approval document should be revised as follows:

1. Projects without major changes in the scope of work: Prepare a reevaluation statement in accordance with Appendix 11 of this manual. The reevaluation statement along with approved SEQR design approval document should be used to progress the project under NEPA.
2. Projects with substantial change in scope after design approval:

- A supplemental design approval document “errata” can be developed and used along with the already approved SEQR design approval document to progress the project under NEPA. Refer to the errata format discussed in Appendix 7 of this manual. This format is best suited when the errata will be relatively short.
- A supplemental design approval document can be developed by editing the previously approved design approval document. With electronic design approval documents, changes to accommodate the funding change can be easily documented provided the initial document was prepared in accordance with Appendix 7 of this manual. This format can be used for minor and major changes to the project scope.

2.5.2.1 Environmental Studies, Permits and Approvals

Federal aid projects will likely have some additional environmental requirements. For example, Section 4(f) and Sole Source Aquifers apply only to Federal-aid projects. Appendix 1 of this manual and the Environmental Commitments & Obligations Package (ECOPAC) checklist should be used to ensure that all environmental issues are covered. Environmental studies should be attached to the design approval document (or reevaluation statement).

2.5.2.2 Design Related Approvals

If the design approval granting authority has changed based on the TEA 21 matrix, re-obtain design approval (and any non-standard feature approval) upon completion of the NEPA determination.

2.5.2.3 Value Engineering

Projects on the NHS with a total estimated cost of $25M or more require a value engineering study. If such a project is switched to federal funding after Design Phase I, a value engineering study can be accomplished anytime before PS&E submission to DQAB.