



US Army Corps of Engineers

Jan 2024 EV/EVSE NEWSLETTER

BUILDING STRONG®

HQUSACE recognizes that installing new infrastructure like electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) is complicated. In addition to a status update on the Multiple

Award Task Order Contracts (MATOC) and policies National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) may apply to EVSE implementation at your project, including information on relevant USACE policies and applicable exemptions!

WELCOME MYRNA LOPEZ-ORTIZ!

As the new permanent National Sustainability, Environmental Compliance, and Energy Program Manager. Her first day was Tuesday, Jan 16. We look forward to working with her!

NEPA AND EVSE INSTALLATION: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW

What is NEPA?

[NEPA](#), passed in 1969, requires federal agencies to understand the environmental effects of their actions *prior* to decision-making or acting. The NEPA assessment process applies to actions at all USACE projects and can be time-consuming and costly. To streamline federal operations, Categorical Exclusions (CATEXs), or categories of actions that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment, have been established. Actions within these categories are exempt from NEPA analysis and review.

How does USACE handle NEPA review?

In October 2023, USACE published a memorandum clarifying how CATEXs can be used for activities at USACE-owned Civil Works projects. Per the memorandum, the District Commander is the USACE NEPA official responsible for compliance, and qualified staff should determine if a CATEX is applicable for a specific action to comply with NEPA requirements.

What does this mean for EVSE?

At all USACE-owned facilities, the use of CATEXs could enhance program and project delivery. For EVSE specifically, some activities related to EVSE installation might be subject to NEPA review, unless they fall under a CATEX.

Note: Some actions related to EVSE installation may not be covered by a CATEX. HQUSACE encourages MSCs to review the [CATEX Memo](#) and reach out with any questions.

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE EVSE ON CONTRACT?

Read on for a status update on projects using the two current contract options for the installation of EVSE: the Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC) and the General Service Administration Blanket Purchase Agreements (GSA BPA).

UPDATES ON THE MATOC(S)

FY22 MATOC: 13 sites

- 11 are done with design phase and moving into mobilization and construction phase
- 2 are in 100% design phase

FY23 MATOC: 31 sites across LRD and NAD

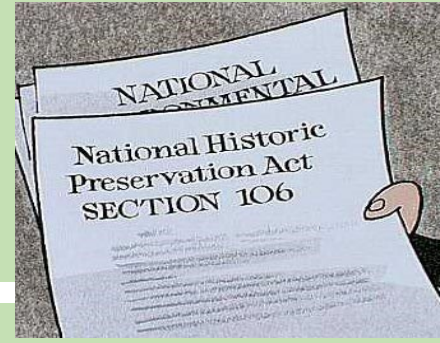
- Pending award, expected in late January

UPDATES ON THE GSA BPA

Four projects within the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division (LRD) are the first in USACE to secure contracts for EVSE installation under the GSA BPA! Think it might work well for your site? Reach out to Scot Dahms for more information.

What is the NHPA?

The NHPA, passed in 1966, establishes a system of protections to preserve any district, building, structure, site, or object that is significant at the national, state, or local level. If an action taken by a federal agency occurs at one of these historic sites, it is subject to the NHPA system of protections and must undergo a lengthy review to determine if the action may cause damage.



What do you need to do if NHPA applies to you?

When EVSE is installed at a historic site, NHPA protections would typically apply. However, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has approved an exemption for certain EVSE installation projects; if the project meets *all* below criteria, no NHPA review is needed:

1. Complete in existing facilities with minimal infrastructure modifications, located as close to an existing electrical service panel as possible

2. Use reversible minimally invasive, non-permanent techniques to affix the infrastructure

3. Minimize ground disturbance and ensure it does not exceed previous levels of ground disturbance

4. Use the lowest profile EVSE reasonably available that provides the necessary charging capacity

5. Place EVSE in minimally visibly intrusive areas

6. Use colors complementary to the surrounding environment

How do I know if this applies to me?

The NHPA, and therefore the exemption criteria, only applies if your site is on historic properties. If you aren't sure if your site is on or near historic land, review the National Register of Historic Places and reach out to the contacts listed below for support.

If NHPA applies to my site, do I have to meet all criteria to qualify for the exemption?

Yes! If the NHPA applies to your site, HQUSACE encourages you to review the [exemption](#) and reach out to HQUSACE POCs listed below to discuss how you can meet the criteria with minimal impact to your EVSE implementation process.

If you have any questions on EVs, EVSEs, or related subject areas, please reach to one of the names listed below. For questions related to CW sites, contact Ms. Myrna Lopez-Ortiz. For questions related to RF sites, contact Ms. Marti Sedgwick.

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