

January 7, 1999

Re: Call-in Technical Inquiry 0425A – Definition of lease acquisition in ADM 1095.2

Dear NEPA User:

This letter is in further response to your October 21, 1998, request for guidance on whom at GSA is responsible for determining that siting in a regulated floodplain is the only practicable alternative. In our previous response, we stated that the Administrator has delegated responsibility for the determination to the Regional Administrator when the action involves regional disposal of real property or lease acquisitions. In all other cases, the PBS Commissioner is responsible for the determination. In a follow-up telephone call, you also asked was between a "Lease Acquisition" and "Federal Construction," terms which are used in GSA Order ADM 1095.2 (Change 1, October 31, 1983), "Consideration of Floodplains and Wetlands in Decisionmaking."

NEPA Call-In searched the GSA "Insite" page for documents containing the terms "Lease Construction" and "Federal Construction." The search located 18 documents that contained one of the terms. We reviewed each document but none contained a definition of either term.

We then contacted an Environmental Quality Advisory Group (EQAG) member, Office of Business Performance, in the GSA National Office. The EQAG member stated that he did not believe that GSA had any formal written definition for the terms. The EQAG member stated that, in the broadest sense, "Federal Construction" refers to construction of a building or facility by the Federal government, on a government-owned site, where the Federal government will use the building or facility. The term "Lease Construction" refers to construction of a building or facility by a private entity, on a privately owned site, where the Federal government will use the building or facility.

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Sincerely,

(Original Signed)

NEPA Call-In Researcher