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Project Purpose and Need

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The Purpose and Need in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement should not specify how the purpose will be achieved. There may be several different ways ("alternatives") to meet the project's purpose and need. A statement of project purpose should be broad enough to allow a reasonable range of alternatives to be considered.

Law: 40 CFR 1502.13

Guidance: July 23, 2003 FHWA/FTA

Joint Guidance



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