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Summary: This draft administrative manual provides an outline the administrative process to be followed for the conduct of the Environmental Impact Assessment process in Grenada. It is also intended to inform stakeholders with interests, the public and others about the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in Grenada.

How to Comment: **Email comments to:** environment.sec@gmail.com

Deliver comments by hand to:
Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy, Ministerial Complex, St. George, Grenada.

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Environmental Impact Assessment Administrative Manual



1 **Introduction**

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3 This manual is intended to outline the administrative process to be followed for the
4 conduct of the Environmental Impact Assessment process in Grenada. It is also
5 intended to inform applicants, stakeholders with interests, the public and others about
6 the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in Grenada and build public trust
7 in the process.

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9 The manual seeks to improve understanding of the requirements for the EIA report and
10 public access to information on the factors that are to be taken into account in decision-
11 making.

12

13 The manual would also explain public participation and consultation in the EIA process.

14

15 This manual does not have statutory status and will be kept under review and updated
16 based on lessons learned with the EIA process locally. It is by no means exhaustive and
17 will be update when the Draft 2011 Regulations come into force or when new ideas or
18 issues arise.

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21 The Environmental Impact Assessment is conducted in phases. The main phases are:

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23 Screening

24 Notifying

25 Scoping

26 Impact Assessment

27 Environmental Impact Assessment Report

28 Monitoring

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30 **Screening**

31 Screening is the first stage of the EIA process and the Physical Planning and
32 Development Control Act No.23 of 2016Section 22authorizes the Planning
33 Development Authority to require an EIA for any application for permission to develop
34 land if the proposed development could significantly affect the environment.

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40 Physical Planning and Development Control Act 23 of 2016

Section 22

1. The Authority may require an Environmental Impact Assessment to be carried out in respect of any application for permission to develop land, including an application for approval in principle, if the proposed development could significantly affect the environment.
2. Unless the authority for good cause otherwise determines, an Environmental Impact Assessment shall be carried out in respect of any application for development of a kind mentioned in the Third Schedule.
3. The Authority shall not grant permission for the development of land pursuant to an application to which this section applies, unless it has first taken the report on the Environmental Impact Assessment into account

The screening is based on Schedule III which identifies the projects which will require an EIA. See Appendix.

Notifying

When the Planning Development Authority determines that an EIA is required the Ministry of Climate Resilience, Environment and Renewable Energy and other relevant authorities will be notified. The Planning and Development Authority is required to notify all government agencies which are responsible for issuing licenses, permits, approvals, consents or other documentary authorization in connection with the proposed development that an EIA is required for the development.

Scoping

Scoping involves the following:

Identification of the range of community and scientific concerns about a proposed project or action;

The evaluation of these concerns to identify the significant issues (and elimination of those issues that are not important); and

The organisation and prioritisation of those issues to focus the information that is critical for decision-making, and that will be studied in detail in the next phase of EIA.

The objectives of the scoping phase are as follows:

To inform the public about a proposal;

To identify the main stakeholders and their concerns and values;

To define reasonable and practical alternatives to be addressed;

To focus the important issues and significant impacts to be addressed by an EIA;

- 1 To define the boundaries for an EIA in time, space and subject matter;
- 2 To set requirements for the collection of baseline and other information; and
- 3 To establish the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the EIA study.

4

5 During the scoping phase stakeholders maybe be invited to submit their concerns
6 regarding the development during a public hearing either by the EIA Review Committee
7 or the Environment Division of the Ministry of Climate Resilience Environment and
8 Renewable Energy. These concerns are included in the Terms of Reference.

9

10 At the end of the scoping phase a Scoping report will be prepared by the EIA
11 practitioner and submitted to the Environment Division of the Ministry of Climate
12 Resilience, Environment and Renewable Energy for review. The scoping report sets out
13 the proposed scope of work and methods which to be applied in the development of the
14 Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

15

16 The Terms of Reference for the EIA is also produced at this stage by the authority
17 conducting the EIA. The Terms of Reference will be based on the Scoping Report and
18 will be submitted to the Ministry of Climate Resilience, Environment and Renewable
19 Energy for review and approval. The Environment Division will provide the review
20 committee with submissions from public comment and the proponents' responses and
21 the results of its own investigations and enquires.

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23 The Planning Development Authority has general guidelines for the development of the
24 EIA Terms of Reference.

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28 **Impact Assessment**

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30 The impact assessment phase will consider the potential environmental, health, social
31 and economic impacts of the proposed development, including benefits and evaluates
32 the environmental and social impacts of the planned projects compared to the baseline
33 conditions. Mitigation measures will also be proposed for minimizing the negative
34 impacts.

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40 There are several methods and techniques which are used in the Impact assessment.
41 They include:

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- 2 Environmental cost benefit analysis
- 3 Expert opinion
- 4 Expert system
- 5 Indices or indicators
- 6 Laboratory testing
- 7 Landscape evaluation
- 8 Literature reviews
- 9 Matrices
- 10 Baseline monitoring
- 11 Field monitoring
- 12 Overlay mapping
- 13 Photographs/photomontages
- 14 Qualitative models
- 15 Quantitative models
- 16 Risk assessment
- 17 Scenario building
- 18 Trend extrapolation
- 19
- 20
- 21 The impact assessment will be done by specialists. They include
- 22 Biodiversity specialists
- 23 Hydrogeologist
- 24 Visual and aesthetic specialists
- 25 Heritage specialists
- 26 Economists
- 27 Social Scientists
- 28
- 29 The role of the specialist is to address issues raised in the scoping report and provide
- 30 enough information that can be used by the PDA board and the Environment Division to
- 31 make a decision.
- 32
- 33 At the end of the Impact Assessment Phase the EIA report will be prepared. EIA report
- 34 is the main output from the EIA process. The EIA report will include a separate report by
- 35 each specialist and the report will include a non technical summary. The report will be
- 36 accompanied by a Mitigation plan/ Environmental Management Plan. The report and
- 37 plan will be submitted to the Environment Division of the Ministry of Climate Resilience,
- 38 Environment and Renewable Energy for review. The Environmental Management Plan
- 39 should demonstrate how proposed management measures will reduce environmental

1 impacts to an acceptable level. The Environment Department prepares conditions for
2 approval as necessary.

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4 The Environment Department may require any person to provide it with advice including
5 advice from relevant decision making bodies and government departments.

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11 **EIA Report Review**

12 The draft EIA report will be reviewed by the EIA Review Committee.

13 Draft Regulation 2011

14 **49.** (1) An applicant who is required to conduct an EIA as part of the applicant's
15 application to the Authority must submit 5 copies of the EIA report as the case may be.

16 (2) The Authority shall within ten working days of the receipt of the EIA report, submit
17 the report to the Committee for its review and recommendations.

18 (3) The Chairperson of the Committee shall convene a meeting of the Committee within
19 three weeks of the Authority submitting the EIA report to the Committee under sub-
20 regulation (2).

21 (4) The Committee shall review the EIA report and submit its recommendations in
22 respect of the report to the Authority, and the Authority shall act in accordance with the
23 provisions of regulation 50.

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27 **List of policy/regulation/legislation to be consulted**

28 Physical Planning & Development Control Act 23 of 2016

29 Grenada Building Code/OECS Building Code

30 Ramsar

31 Coastal Zone Law

32 Climate Change Policy

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40 **General Requirements**

1 EIA to be conducted by qualified persons

2 Section 46 (Draft Regulations 2011)

3 (1) The names, expertise and experience of all persons conducting an IEE or EIA shall
4 be submitted by an applicant to the Authority for approval.

5 (2) The applicant shall be in receipt of written notification of approval from the Authority
6 in respect of sub regulation (1), prior to any work commencing on the conduct of the
7 EIA.

8 (3) The Authority shall not accept the submission of an EIA report from any applicant,
9 unless the entire team conducting the EIA is approved by the Authority in accordance
10 with this regulation.

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13 **Appendix**

14 **PPDC Act 23 Schedule III:**

15 Matters for which an Environmental Impact Assessment is normally required.

16 1. Hotels or resort complex of more than 50 rooms

17 2. Sub-divisions of more than 10 lots

18 3. Residential development of more than 25 units

19 Any industrial plant,

20 4. which in the opinion of the Authority is likely to cause significant adverse
21 environmental impact

22 5. Drilling, quarrying, sand mining and other mining activities

23 6. Marinas

24 7. Land reclamation, dredging and filling of ponds and swamps

25 8. Airports, ports and harbours

26 9. Dams and reservoirs

27 10. Hydro-electric projects

28 11. Desalination plants

29 12. Water purification plants

30 13. Sanitary landfill operations, solid waste disposal sites, toxic waste disposal sites
31 and other similar sites

32 14. A power plant

33 15. An incinerator, sanitary landfill operation, solid waste disposal site, sludge disposal
34 site or other similar site

35 16. Gas pipeline installations

36 17. Wind turbines

37 18. Communication towers

38 19. Any development projects generating or potentially generating emissions, aqueous
39 effluent, solid waste, noise, vibration or radioactive discharges

40 20. Any development involving the storage and use of hazardous materials

- 1 21. Any coastal zone development
- 2 22. Any development in wetlands, marine parks, national parks, conservation areas,
- 3 environmental protection areas or other sensitive environmental areas; and
- 4 23. Any other projects identified by the Authority