



## Environmental Review Information Sheet: Exempt Activities (24 CFR 58.34)

### Explanation

*Exempt* is a category of activities for which the responsible entity does not have to undertake any environmental review, consultation, or other action under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the other provisions of law or authorities cited in 24 CFR 58.5. Exempt activities may be subject to applicable requirements of 24 CFR 58.6. To obtain a Release of Funds for an Exempt activity, grantees must submit a **Certification of Exempt Project** form to the Ohio Department of Development Office of Housing and Community Partnerships (OHCP).

### Activities

Exempt activities are listed at **24 CFR 58.34 (a) (1 - 11)**:

1. Environmental and other studies, resource identification and the development of plans and strategies;
2. Information and financial services;
3. Administrative and management activities;
4. Public services that will not have a physical impact or result in any physical changes, including but not limited to services concerned with employment, crime prevention, child care, health, drug abuse, education, counseling, energy conservation and welfare or recreational needs;
5. Inspections and testing of properties for hazards or defects;
6. Purchase of insurance;
7. Purchase of tools;
8. Engineering or design costs;
9. Technical assistance and training;
10. Assistance for temporary or permanent improvements that do not alter environmental conditions and are limited to protection, repair, or restoration activities necessary only to control or arrest the effects from disasters or imminent threats to public safety including those resulting from physical deterioration;
11. Payment of principal and interest on loans made or obligations guaranteed by HUD.

Per **24 CFR 58.34 (a) (12)**, some Categorical Exclusion activities may be converted to Exempt following an initial compliance review:

12. Any of the categorical exclusions listed in §58.35 (a) provided that there are no circumstances which require compliance with any other Federal laws and authorities cited in §58.5.

Note that projects which meet the criteria described at 24 CFR 58.34 (a) (12) must first comply with the requirements of 24 CFR 58.35 (a), Categorical Exclusions, including completion of the Statutory Checklist and the development of an environmental review record. A **Certification of Determination of Subsequent Exemption For A Categorical Exclusion Project** must be submitted for these projects:

### Publication Requirements

There are no public notice requirements associated with Exempt activities.

### Release of Funds Procedures

To obtain a Release of Funds for an Exempt activity, grantees must submit a **Certification of Exempt Project** form to OHCP. There are no public comment periods associated with Exempt activities. Please note that some OHCP programs include an Environmental Review Documentation and Certification Form for General Administration, Planning, and Fair Housing in the program application. This document constitutes an environmental release for these three activities. Consult specific program guidelines to determine if this form is included in the application.

### Flowchart

