



BEAD Program Technical Assistance Resource

Resource Version:

Version	Date
1	6/30/26

Resource Details:

Category	NEPA
Summary	Clarification of Endangered Resources Review payment responsibilities.
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Disclaimer: This document is intended solely to assist subrecipient in better understanding the Wisconsin BEAD program and associated policies/processes. This document does not supersede, modify, or otherwise alter applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, the terms and conditions of the award, or the Grant Agreement. In all cases, statutory and regulatory mandates, the terms and conditions of the award, and NTIA policies and guidance shall prevail over any inconsistencies contained in this document.

Endangered Resources Review Fees and Payment

Commission staff will be working directly with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to complete the Endangered Resources (ER) reviews required for BEAD projects using the information provided by subrecipients in their Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening (EIDS) Questionnaire. The WDNR portion of these reviews have a cost associated with them which will be billed by the WDNR directly to the subrecipient of the award. Commission staff time spent on the review will not be billed. The minimum fee for a standard ER Review is \$75, which covers the first hour of WDNR staff time. Each additional hour needed to complete the review is billed at \$75 per hour. This is an allowable cost for the grant award.

Alternatively, subrecipients can work directly with the WDNR on their own ER review. If a subrecipient prefers to work directly with the WDNR on this review, they may opt out of the Commission's assistance by filing a 'ER Review Opt-Out letter' to their BEAD ERF docket prior to submitting their EIDS Questionnaire and documentation. This signed letter must be received prior to the submission of the EIDS, should include the projects names, and should include the following language:

"I certify that [legal name of BEAD subrecipient] will coordinate directly with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on ER reviews of our awarded BEAD project(s). [Subrecipient] declines ER review assistance from the Commission. Upon completion, we will submit a copy to the Commission."

Subrecipients that elect to work directly the WDNR are then responsible for submitting the completed ER Review to the related BEAD projects in the PSC Grants Management System, including following proper confidential filing requirements for any confidential results.

Additional Resources:

- [BEAD Program Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening Questionnaire \(EIDS\)](#)
- [BEAD Program Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening Instructions and Resources](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Endangered Resources Review](#)