

**UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICAL PLAN**  
State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)  
**SEQR Definitions & Terminology**  
(from 6 NYCRR §617)

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“**Action**” is a project or physical activity such as construction that may affect the environment by changing the use, appearance or condition.

“**Environmental Assessment Form**” or EAF is the form used by an agency to assist it in determining the environmental significance of its action.

“**Environmental Impact Statement**” or (EIS), either draft or final, generic or supplemental, is the document that provides a means for agencies, project sponsors and the public to consider significant adverse environmental impacts, alternatives and mitigation. It weighs the social, economic and environmental factors early in the planning and decision-making process and circulated for review and comment

“**Environmental Notice Bulletin**” (ENB) is a weekly publication of the NYSDEC.

“**Findings Statement**” is the written statement prepared by each involved agency after a Final EIS has been filed, which considers the relevant environmental impacts of an Action, weighs and balances them with social, economic and other essential considerations, provides a rationale for the agency's decision and certifies that the SEQR requirements have been met.

“**Involved Agency**” is any agency that will ultimately make a decision to fund, approve or directly undertake an action.

“**Interested Agency**” is an agency that lacks the jurisdiction to fund, approve or directly undertake an action but wishes to participate in the review process because of its specific expertise or concern about the proposed action.

“**Lead Agency**” is the involved agency primarily responsible for undertaking, funding or approving an action. The Lead Agency is responsible for determining whether an environmental impact statement is required and for its preparation and filing if one is required.

**“Mitigation”** is a way to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts.

**“Negative Declaration”** is a written determination by a Lead Agency that a proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

**“Positive Declaration”** is a written statement prepared by the Lead Agency indicating that implementation of the action as proposed may have a significant adverse impact on the environment and that an environmental impact statement will be required.

**“Project Sponsor”** is the applicant or agency primarily responsible for undertaking an action.

**“Scoping”** is a process by which the Lead Agency identifies potentially significant adverse impacts of an Action that will be addressed in the draft EIS, including the content and level of detail of the analysis, the range of alternatives, the mitigation measures needed. Scoping also helps identify nonrelevant issues. Scoping provides a project sponsor with guidance on matters which must be considered and provides an opportunity for early participation by involved agencies and the public in the review of the proposal.

**“Type I Action”** - an action or class of actions identified in §617.4 of the SEQR Regulations. Type I Actions are those projects or actions that may have a significant adverse impact on the environment and that are more likely to require the preparation of an EIS.