



INFRASTRUCTURE PERMITTING PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM SCORECARD

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

June 2019

OVERVIEW OF ACCOUNTABILITY SCORECARDS

The Performance Accountability System (hereafter “Accountability System”) established by *Modernize Infrastructure Permitting Cross-Agency Priority Goal Performance Accountability System* ([OMB Memorandum M-18-25](#)) requires agencies to track their compliance with the One Federal Decision (OFD) policy and related provisions of [Executive Order \(EO\) 13807](#) (*Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects*).

The Accountability System applies to all Federal agencies that have a role in the environmental review and permitting process for major infrastructure projects. It applies to all major infrastructure projects with a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq., published after August 15, 2017.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will review agencies' performance accountability through the Accountability System at least once each quarter and will publish a scorecard of agency performance and overall progress toward achieving Cross-Agency Priority Goal targets (hereafter “Accountability Scorecards”).

PURPOSE

The Glossary below defines terms used throughout the Accountability Scorecards. This document is intended for viewers of the Accountability Scorecards.

ACCOUNTABILITY SCORECARD PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Below are the definitions related to the six Accountability System performance indicators as identified in [OMB Memorandum M-18-25](#). More information on these performance indicators can be found in the Memorandum or in [EO 13807](#).

Performance Indicator	Definition
Cost to Complete Environmental Review and Authorization Decisions	Measurement of total cost to the Federal government to complete the environmental reviews and authorization decisions for each major infrastructure project . The cost estimate includes direct costs of Full-Time Equivalent staff and contractor costs related to the project.
Elevation Procedure	Measurement of whether agencies have established a process to elevate schedule delays for major infrastructure projects to senior agency officials and if they use that process when appropriate. This process should be used whenever milestones will be missed or need to be extended, causing an action's target completion date to be delayed by 30 or more days.
Meeting Milestones	Measurement of whether agencies are meeting milestone target completion dates for major infrastructure projects .
One Federal Decision Implementation	Measurement of whether major infrastructure projects are processed using the OFD framework. Lead agencies must mark on the Federal Agency Portal whether each major infrastructure project is being processed in accordance with OFD.
Permitting Timetable	Measurement of whether major infrastructure projects have a complete Permitting Timetable . A Permitting Timetable for major infrastructure projects must be uploaded onto the Federal Agency Portal no later than 30 days after the publication of the NOI.
Time to Complete Environmental Review and Authorization Decision	Measurement of the length of time to complete processing Federal environmental reviews and authorization decisions for each major infrastructure project .

OTHER DEFINITIONS

Below are other definitions for terms used in the Accountability Scorecards. Where available, links to resources with more information on the term are provided.

Term	Definition
Action	<p>Action is a general term that refers to all environmental review or authorization decisions associated with a project. Actions will have multiple milestones that make up the action. Actions and their associated milestone dates make up the permitting timetable.</p> <p>Also referred to as an “Environmental Review or Authorization Decision”. A list of all possible actions may be found in the Federal Environmental Review and Authorization Inventory.</p>
CAP Goals	<p>Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) Goals are a tool used to accelerate progress on a limited number of Presidential-priority areas where implementation requires active collaboration among multiple Federal agencies.</p>
Complete but Submitted Late	<p>A permitting timetable is considered “Complete but Submitted Late” if the project has a complete permitting timetable but it missed the 30-day window required for it to be published to the Permitting Dashboard after the issuance of the NOI to prepare an EIS.</p>
Complete Permitting Timetable	<p>A permitting timetable is considered complete under the “Permitting Timetable” indicator for the Accountability System if it includes an EIS action and identifies all relevant agencies and their associated actions.</p> <p>More information on the “Permitting Timetable” performance indicator can be found in OMB Memorandum M-18-25.</p>
Cooperating Agency	<p>A cooperating agency under the Accountability System is any federal agency other than a lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal as described in 40 CFR Section 1501.6.</p> <p>See the CEQ Regulations Implementing NEPA, 40 CFR 1508.5 for more information.</p>
Elevation Procedures	<p>As required by the Accountability System, an elevation procedure is a process to report schedule delay issues to senior agency officials. Elevation procedures must be used when the lead agency anticipates that one or more milestones will be missed or need to be extended, creating a delay of more than 30 days from the final target completion date of the relevant agency action.</p> <p>More information on elevation procedures can be found in OMB Memorandum M-18-25.</p>

Term	Definition
Failed to Submit Timetable	A permitting timetable is considered “Failed to Submit Timetable” when a major infrastructure project ’s permitting timetable was not published on the Permitting Dashboard at time of evaluation for the Accountability Scorecard.
Federal Agency Portal	<p>The Federal Agency Portal is the private, Federal-facing side of the Permitting Dashboard where project information is entered.</p> <p>Also referred to as the "back-end" of the Permitting Dashboard.</p>
Infrastructure Permitting Performance Accountability System	<p>As established in EO 13807, the Performance Accountability System tracks the environmental review and authorization decision process for major infrastructure projects, engages agency officials in regular reviews of agency performance, and facilitates the achievement of the CAP Goal to Modernize Infrastructure Permitting.</p> <p>The Performance Accountability System applies to all Federal agencies that have a role in the environmental review and permitting process for major infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Also referred to as the “Accountability System.”</p> <p>More information on the Performance Accountability System can be found in OMB Memorandum M-18-25.</p>
Lead (Federal) Agency	<p>The lead agency is the Federal agency with responsibility for the environmental review and authorization of a major infrastructure project under NEPA and parts 1500 through 1508 of Title 40 CFR.</p> <p>For more information about the determination, roles, and responsibilities of the lead agency under One Federal Decision, see OMB/CEQ Memorandum M-18-13 to heads of Federal departments and agencies, <i>One Federal Decision Framework for the Environmental Review and Authorization Process for Major Infrastructure Projects under Executive Order 13807</i>.</p>
Major Infrastructure Project	A major infrastructure project is defined under EO 13807 as an infrastructure project for which multiple authorizations by Federal agencies will be required to proceed with construction, the lead Federal agency has determined that it will prepare an EIS under NEPA, and the project sponsor has identified the reasonable availability of funds it needs to complete the project.
Milestones	Milestones are significant events that are tracked by date for an action . Actions will always contain multiple underlying milestones.

Term	Definition
One Federal Decision	<p>As described in EO 13807, One Federal Decision (OFD) states that for each major infrastructure project, agencies will work together to develop a single Permitting Timetable for the necessary environmental review and authorization decisions, prepare a single EIS, sign a single record of decision (ROD), and issue all necessary authorization decisions within 90 days of issuance of the ROD. OFD requirements are subject to limited exceptions.</p> <p>More information on OFD can be found in EO 13807. For more information on the list of exceptions, please see Section XIII in OMB/CEQ Memorandum M-18-13.</p>
Participating Agency	<p>A participating agency is as an agency participating in an environmental review or authorization for a covered project in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Section 4370m-2.</p> <p>See the FAST-41 Implementation Guidance for more information.</p>
Paused Status	<p>Lead agencies are able to “Pause” actions and projects on the Permitting Dashboard when issues outside the control of the Federal government causes unforeseen delays and new milestone dates are impossible to estimate.</p>
Permitting Timetable	<p>The permitting timetable is a schedule of the actions and milestones needed to complete the environmental review of a project. The permitting timetable is prepared by the lead agency in consultation with all cooperating and participating agencies.</p>
Project Status	<p>The project status indicates the current stage of a project. A project can be marked as either “Cancelled,” “Completed,” “In Progress,” “Paused,” or “Planned” on the Permitting Dashboard.</p>
Target Completion Date	<p>The target completion date for each milestone is the deadline for a milestone. Target completion dates are established by consultation between lead agencies, cooperating agencies, and participating agencies.</p> <p>Also referred to as “milestone target date” or “target milestone dates.”</p>