1.4 Georgia Environmental Protection Act (GEPA)

Policy Statement

There is no formal policy statement for this topic however procedures and other information are provided below.

The University of Georgia conducts its affairs with an awareness that it is a steward of air, land, water, plant, animal, environmental, historical, and cultural resources. Environmental evaluations are a part of the decision-making processes of the University when appropriate. The University of Georgia has the responsibility for conducting the evaluation of all of its proposed governmental actions pursuant to the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA). Specific instructions and necessary forms can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Safety Division at (706) 542-5801.

Reason for policy

The University of Georgia is required by State law to comply with the provisions of the Georgia Environmental Policy Act of 1991.

Procedures

A Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA) evaluation must be completed to assess potential adverse environmental impacts of a planned project. The GEPA evaluation should generally be completed during the design phase of a project. The GEPA evaluation assesses potential adverse environmental impacts that could be created during construction and operation of the project.

Projects qualify for GEPA if the action (project) is funded by state funds and includes any one of the following actions:

- The action is a land disturbing activity, including but not limited to: scraping, plowing, clearing, dredging, grading, excavating, transporting or filling of land, or placement of any structure or impervious surface, dam, obstruction or deposit.
- The moving or altering of any structure on or eligible for placement on the Georgia Register of Historical Places.
- The sale or exchange of more than five acres of state owned land.
- The harvesting of five acres or more of trees over two inches in diameter at breast height.

Forms/Instructions

Contact the Environmental Affairs group at the Environmental Safety Division to obtain the requisite forms and for further instructions regarding projects that qualify for a GEPA evaluation, (706) 542-5801.

Responsibilities

Responsible University Senior Administrator: Vice President for Finance & Administration

Responsible University Administrator: Associate Vice President for Environmental Safety

Policy Owner: Bill Megathlin, Director Information Systems Support

Policy Contact: Bill Megathlin, 706-542-5801

Phone Number: 706-542-5801

Record Retention
Policy Dates

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