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**To: All Consultants**

**TAC – 360**

**Date: October 27, 2020**

**Subject: RIDOT Natural Resources Unit (NRU) Categorical Exclusion (CE) Project Narrative Guidance Document**

Consultants are hereby notified that the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) Natural Resources Unit (NRU) has developed guidance for Sections B 1,2,7 and Section C of the RIDOT Categorical Exclusion (CE) Determination Project Narrative under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The NRU CE Project Narrative Guidance Document provides additional information necessary to properly complete these sections and to assist RIDOT NRU in documenting compliance with regulations concerning the management of natural resources. The document is to be used for the NRU's review of impacts to natural environmental resources, and it is recommended to complete it prior to RIDOT's CE Determination Checklist.

Effective immediately, Consultants are directed to utilize the NRU CE Project Narrative Guidance Document for all new RIDOT projects. The document must be submitted with all the Categorical Exclusion documents to the Natural Resources Unit for review. The template is available from the RIDOT website under the Natural Resources heading here: <http://www.dot.ri.gov/business/contractorsandconsultants.php>.

Please contact the Natural Resources Unit for information on additional documentation and requirements. Resource considerations and documentation may vary. Clarifications or questions regarding this document may be directed to Nicole Lineberry at [nicole.leporacci@dot.ri.gov](mailto:nicole.leporacci@dot.ri.gov). Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Rocchio, P.E.  
Chief Engineer