

(1) the relevant regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency; and

(2) the Office of Environmental Justice of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(Pub. L. 115–270, title IV, § 4305, Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3883.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, and not as part of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 which comprises this chapter.

§ 4370j. Municipal Ombudsman

(a) Establishment

There is established within the Office of the Administrator an Office of the Municipal Ombudsman, to be headed by a Municipal Ombudsman.

(b) General duties

The duties of the Municipal Ombudsman shall include the provision of—

(1) technical assistance to municipalities seeking to comply with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act [33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.]; and

(2) information to the Administrator to help the Administrator ensure that agency policies are implemented by all offices of the Environmental Protection Agency, including regional offices.

(c) Actions required

The Municipal Ombudsman shall work with appropriate offices at the headquarters and regional offices of the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that a municipality seeking assistance is provided information regarding—

(1) available Federal financial assistance for which the municipality is eligible;

(2) flexibility available under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and

(3) the opportunity to develop an integrated plan under section 402(s) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act [33 U.S.C. 1342(s)].

(d) Information sharing

The Municipal Ombudsman shall publish on the website of the Environmental Protection Agency—

(1) general information relating to—

(A) the technical assistance referred to in subsection (b)(1);

(B) the financial assistance referred to in subsection (c)(1);

(C) the flexibility referred to in subsection (c)(2); and

(D) any resources developed by the Administrator related to integrated plans under section 402(s) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act [33 U.S.C. 1342(s)]; and

(2) a copy of each permit, order, or judicial consent decree that implements or incorporates such an integrated plan.

(Pub. L. 115–436, § 4, Jan. 14, 2019, 132 Stat. 5560.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is act June 30, 1948, ch. 758, as amended generally by Pub. L. 92–500, § 2, Oct. 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 816, which is classified generally to chapter 26 (§ 1251 et seq.)

of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1251 of Title 33 and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act, and not as part of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 115–436, § 2, Jan. 14, 2019, 132 Stat. 5558, provided that: “In this Act [see Short Title of 2019 Amendment note set out under section 1251 of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters]:

“(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

“(2) MUNICIPALITY.—The term ‘municipality’ has the meaning given that term in section 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362).”

SUBCHAPTER IV—FEDERAL PERMITTING IMPROVEMENT

§ 4370m. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) Agency

The term “agency” has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5.

(2) Agency CERPO

The term “agency CERPO” means the chief environmental review and permitting officer of an agency, as designated by the head of the agency under section 4370m–1(b)(2)(A)(iii)(I) of this title.

(3) Authorization

The term “authorization” means any license, permit, approval, finding, determination, or other administrative decision issued by an agency that is required or authorized under Federal law in order to site, construct, reconstruct, or commence operations of a covered project administered by a Federal agency or, in the case of a State that chooses to participate in the environmental review and authorization process in accordance with section 4370m–2(c)(3)(A) of this title, a State agency.

(4) Cooperating agency

The term “cooperating agency” means any agency with—

(A) jurisdiction under Federal law; or

(B) special expertise as described in section 1501.6 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on December 4, 2015).

(5) Council

The term “Council” means the Federal Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Steering Council¹ established under section 4370m–1(a) of this title.

(6) Covered project

(A) In general

The term “covered project” means any activity in the United States that requires authorization or environmental review by a

¹So in original. Probably should be “Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council”.