

§ 10005.2

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§ 10005.2 Definitions.

The Act refers to the Central Utah Project Completion Act, Titles II, III, IV, V, and VI of Public Law 102–575, October 30, 1992.

Applicant refers to an agency, organization, or individual providing formal recommendations to the Commission regarding projects to be considered for inclusion in the Commission's plan.

Commission means the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, as established by section 301 of the Act.

Interested parties refers to Federal and State agencies, Indian tribes, non-profit organizations, county and municipal governments, special districts, and members of the general public with an interest in the Commission's plan and plan development activities.

Other applicable Federal laws refers to all Federal acts and agency regulations that have a bearing on how the Commission conducts its business, with specific reference to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*); the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Plan and *five-year plan* refer to the Commission's mitigation and conservation plan as required by section 301 of the Act.

Planning rule refers to this part, which is a component of the Commission's administrative rules and which provides guidance for the development, and implementation, of the Commission's plan.

Section 8 funds refers to the section of the Colorado River Storage Project Act that provides for congressionally authorized funds to be used in mitigating the effects of the Colorado River Storage Project on fish, wildlife, and related recreation resources.

§ 10005.3 Policy.

(a) As directed in section 301(a) of the Act, the Commission was established "to coordinate the implementation of the mitigation and conservation provisions of this Act among the Federal and State fish, wildlife, and recreation agencies. The United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Re-

sources report accompanying the Act provided further clarification of Congressional intent: "Focusing of such authority into a single entity is intended to eliminate past dispersion among several Federal and State resource management agencies of the responsibility, and therefore accountability, for reclamation mitigation in Utah."

(b) It is the policy of the Commission that the mitigation and conservation plan, in tandem with the Act, serve as the principal guidance for the Commission in fulfilling its mitigation and conservation responsibilities. Further, the Commission will use the development of the plan, and subsequent amendment processes, as the primary means to involve agencies and the public in the Commission's decision making process.

§ 10005.4 Planning rule authority.

(a) The Commission is required to adopt administrative rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act. The Commission adopts the rule in this part pursuant to that authority and to Section 301(g)(3)(A) and (C) of the Act, which provide for establishment of a rule to guide applicants in making recommendations to the Commission, and to ensure appropriate public involvement.

(b) Adoption of the planning rule constitutes a policy decision on the part of the Commission and, as such, requires formal public notification and approval by the Commission according to established procedures. The planning rule is a component of the administrative rules of the Commission and has the authority accorded to such administrative rules, as described in the Administrative Procedures Act.

§ 10005.5 Directives from the Act relating to the plan.

The basic directions for preparation of the plan are contained in Section 301 of the Act. Sections 304, 314, and 315 provide additional guidance. Provisions that hold particular relevance are identified below.

(a) *Primary authority.* Section 301(f)(1) directs that the mitigation and conservation funds available under the Act are to be used to "conserve, mitigate,