

# Concurrence Point Overview

Concurrence Points are defining points in the Section 404/NEPA Merger Process. Concurrence implies that each project team member and the agency they represent agrees to decisions made at these defining points in the project development process and in doing so pledges to abide by the decision made unless there is a profound changed condition. Concurrence is sequential and must be achieved in the proper order. The seven concurrence points (CP) in the Merger Process are as follows:

## **Concurrence Point 1: Purpose and Need and Study Area Defined**

Purpose and Need and Study Area Defined: The foundation upon which justification of the project is established.

## **Concurrence Point 2: Detailed Study Alternatives Carried Forward (DSA)**

Detailed Study Alternatives Carried Forward: Alternatives which satisfy the purpose and need for the project. These alternatives will be studied and evaluated in sufficient detail to ensure good transportation and permit decision-making.

## **Concurrence Point 2A: Bridging Decisions and Alignment Review**

Bridging Decisions and Alignment Review: Identification of bridge locations and approximate lengths and a review of the preliminary alignment for each alternative.

## **Concurrence Point 3: LEDPA/Preferred Alternative Selection**

LEDPA/Preferred Alternative Selection: The alternative selected as the "least environmentally damaging practicable alternative" or LEDPA and the NEPA preferred alternative, through the project development and permitting process.

## **Concurrence Point 4A: Avoidance and Minimization**

Avoidance and Minimization: A detailed, interdisciplinary and interagency review to optimize the design and benefits of the project while reducing environmental impacts to both the human and natural environment.

## **Concurrence Point 4B: 30 Percent Hydraulic Review**

30 Percent Hydraulic Review: a review of the development of the drainage design.

## **Concurrence Point 4C: Permit Drawings Review**

Permit Drawings Review: A review of the completed permit drawings after the hydraulic design is complete and prior to submitting the permit application.