



21 June 2006

Financial Analysis

In evaluating permit applications and discussing potential projects during preapplication consultations, we strive to identify alternatives to avoid and minimize impacts to waters and wetlands. Our public interest review requires us to balance a host of factors ranging environmental to economic considerations.

By regulation, we can only issue a permit for the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative. This requires consideration of cost, logistics, and existing technology. This can be a challenging task for both an applicant and the review agencies. To assist us in evaluating the economics of a project more effectively and more expeditiously, we have developed the enclosed spreadsheets. We are considering requesting applicants, on a case by case basis, to complete these spreadsheets.

Our intent is to request this information only on those occasions when we believe there are practicable alternatives to avoid and minimize impacts to waters and wetlands and an applicant voices concern over the effects of those changes on the economic viability of their project.

Before making a decision on whether or not to implement this requirement, we are providing the public with an opportunity to comment. If you have any comments, you may send them to the Norfolk District, Corps of Engineers at 803 Front Street Norfolk, Virginia 23510 (Attn: Bruce Williams) by July 21, 2006.

J. Robert Hume, III
Chief, Regulatory Branch

[Commercial project spread sheet](#) || [Residential project spread sheet](#)