

## Bales, Ronald

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**From:** Indiana Department of Transportation <indot@subscriptions.in.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2021 12:39 PM  
**To:** Bales, Ronald  
**Subject:** INDOT Categorical Exclusion Manual February 2021

Good afternoon,

INDOT Environmental Policy Office is pleased to announce that the new INDOT Categorical Exclusion Manual (CE Manual) has been added to the newly redesigned INDOT Environmental Policy Office website <https://www.in.gov/indot/2523.htm>. The CE Manual (February 2021 version) is an update to the 2013 CE Manual. **The new CE Manual becomes effective on all first submittals April 1, 2021. First submittals provided prior to April 1, 2021, do not need to have subsequent submittals on the new form(s).** It contains four chapters that mirror the 2013 version. It updates each section to clarify process updates that have happened since the original CE Manual to ensure consistency of submittals and consistency of reviews. **Editable versions of the new CE Level 1 Form, CE/EA Form, and new guidance language to coincide with the form updates will be available March 1, 2021.**

Some of the major changes are as follows:

- Clarifications in the CE threshold table
- Updates to general procedures due to decentralization of Public Involvement
- More information on reevaluations and formatting
- Clarification of LPA processes that differ from INDOT processes
- Updates to the CE/EA Form
  - Design Criteria for Bridges section now includes small structures
  - Cost estimates section reduced to cover air quality aspects in the air quality section.
  - Moving Early Coordination to the beginning of Part III of the CE/EA Form to reduce repetition
  - Check boxes have been made consistent throughout and the number of check boxes have been reduced in several sections
  - Threatened and Endangered Species Section is now Protected Species to expand to other laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act
  - Karst Section has been updated to include Geological and Mineral Resources that come from early coordination or the RFI
  - Air Quality now contains STIP/TIP information that was in the Cost Estimates
  - Indirect and Cumulative Impacts Section has been removed to coincide with the 2020 CEQ updates (still needs discussion in the CE but no specific section at this time)
  - Part IV created to contain permits and commitments
- References other INDOT ESD manuals that have been created since the last major update

We appreciate your attention to preparing and submitting documents in accordance with this document. If you have any questions, please contact Ron Bales at [rbales@indot.in.gov](mailto:rbales@indot.in.gov).

### Ron Bales

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