

# NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

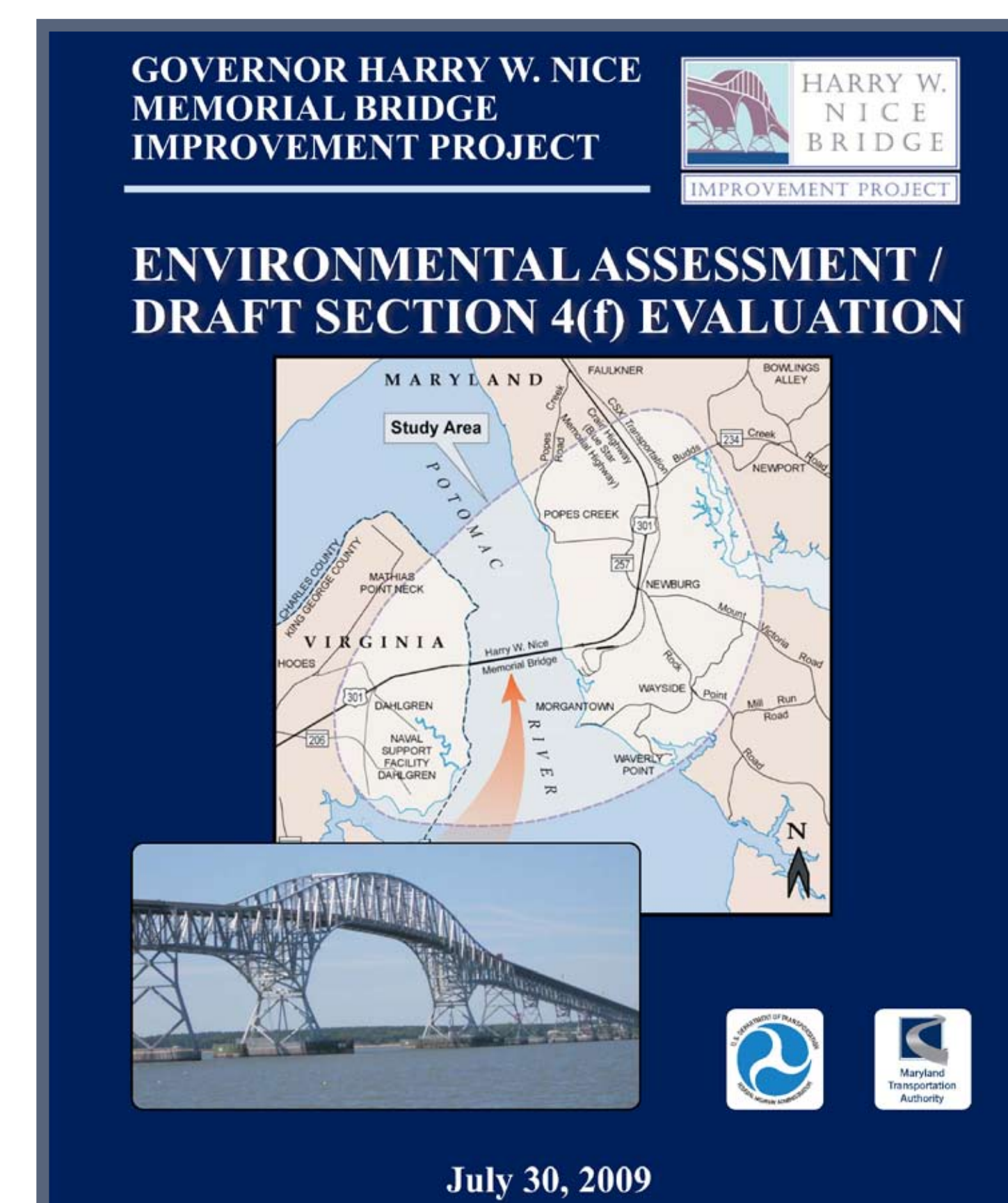
The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) outlines the process and procedures Federal agencies must follow: to analyze the potential environmental consequences of their proposal, to document the analysis, and to make this information available to the public for comment prior to implementation. NEPA applies to any Federal action, including Federal approval of a permit or Federal funding.

## What is an Environmental Assessment (EA)?

An EA is the type of NEPA documentation prepared when the project is not expected to have a significant effect on the environment.

The EA contains data and analyses to demonstrate the lead agency has considered potential environmental impacts. An EA was prepared for the Nice Bridge Improvement Project and is available for public review at the following locations:

- **La Plata Branch Library**  
2 Garrett Avenue  
La Plata, MD  
(301) 934-9001
- **L.E. Smoot Memorial Library**  
9533 Kings Highway  
King George, VA  
(540) 775-7951
- **Maryland Transportation Authority**  
2310 Broening Highway  
Baltimore, MD  
(410) 537-5665
- **Nice Bridge Administration Building**  
US 301 South  
Newburg, MD  
(301) 259-4444



## Major Milestones of the NEPA Process for the Nice Bridge Improvement Project

Project Scoping, Purpose and  
Need, and Definition of  
Alternates

Alternates Retained for Detailed  
Study and Environmental Technical  
Studies

Environmental Assessment  
(Draft Environmental Document)

Public Review

Final Environmental Document