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	Water Resources Policies and Authorities FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN COVERED FLOOD CONTROL CHANNELS	
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Office of the Chief of Engineers
Washington, D.C. 20314

DAEN-CWR-R

Regulation
No. 1165-2-118

13 October 1978

Water Resources Policies
and Authorities
FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN
COVERED FLOOD CONTROL CHANNELS

1. Purpose. This regulation establishes policy for determining the extent of Federal participation in covered flood control channels.

2. Applicability. This regulation applies to all OCE elements and all field operating agencies having Civil Works responsibilities.

3. References.

- a. Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, 24 May 1977.
- b. ER 1105-2-200.
- c. ER 1165-2-21.

4. Policy. Projects will be formulated and evaluated in accordance with the policies and procedures described in ER 1105-2-200. If, during the planning process, it appears that covered flood control channels are desirable, reporting officers may evaluate them and include them when they best serve the public interest. Selection of the plan which best serves the public interest is based upon the ability of the plan to meet planning objectives, the contributions which the plan makes to the National Economic Development (NED), Environmental Quality (EQ), Regional Development (RD) and Social Well Being (SWB) accounts, and the public response to alternative plans. Thus, covered flood control channels may be proposed if they are desired by the public and (a) increase net EQ and/or NED benefits; or, (b) reduce adverse effects on RD or SWB without incurring an unjustified loss in net NED or EQ benefits.

5. Engineering Considerations. Reports on proposals to provide covered channels shall include a discussion of the following matters.

- a. Impacts of sudden reduction in discharge and increased upstream channel stages when the channel entrance is submerged. This discussion shall include the effects resulting from the SPF.

ER 1165-2-118
13 Oct 78

- b. Dangers of rupture resulting from pressurization.
- c. Features provided to prevent human ingress and their impact on project functions.
- d. Effect of the cover on inspection and maintenance costs.
- e. Features provided for pressure release and air venting.
- f. Need for a storm warning system.
- g. Facilities provided to divert flows exceeding the design flow.

6. Level of Protection. Evaluation of the above items may indicate that submergence of entrances to covered channels may have significant impacts on the level of flooding. The requirements of EO 11988 and the significance of the resulting flood damage may require that the covered portion of the channel be enlarged to provide capacity to pass the SPF. If inclusion of SPF capacity on the covered portions of the project cannot be justified, the added capacity may be reduced to the extent that the project will not increase upstream stages resulting from the SPF when compared to the without-project condition. If this capacity is still not feasible, covered channels shall not be recommended.

7. Separation of Flood Control Works from Urban Drainage. Covered channels are likely to be considered in boundary areas demarking urban drainage and flood control. Reporting officers shall apply the policies given in ER 1165-2-21 to separate flood control facilities from urban drainage facilities.

8. Cost Sharing. At local protection projects local interests are required to provide all lands, easements, rights-of-way and all alterations and relocations of utilities, streets, bridges, buildings, storm drains and other structures and improvements; hold and save the United States free from damages due to the construction works except damages due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractor; and assume operation and maintenance of the works after completion. In addition, local interests are required to provide additional cost sharing to reflect special local benefits or betterments. Such additional special cost sharing will not be required for covered channels when the addition of the cover increases net NED flood control benefits when compared to the open channel or when they are provided for safety in schoolyards, playgrounds, or other known

play areas for juveniles. However, the separable cost of providing covers for mitigating SWB or RD impacts or to provide areas for public or private uses such as parking, or the provision of areas for recreation development, etc., will be assigned to local interests. The separable cost of recreational facilities to be constructed on or adjacent to the cover, i.e. picnic facilities, etc., are eligible for Federal participation in accordance with cost sharing policies for recreation facilities at local protection projects. Cost sharing policies for project features which are included to make positive contributions to the EQ account are being developed. Until such policies are developed, proposals to cover channels on this basis will be coordinated with HQDA (DAEN-CWP) WASH DC 20314.

9. Effective Date. These regulations are applicable to all projects not approved by OCE prior to the date of this regulation.

FOR THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS:



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