



Essay Questions

Please review the following list of questions that are categorized by your area of certification. The **six** areas of certification are:

- Environmental Assessment
- Environmental Documentation
- Environmental Operations
- Environmental Planning
- Environmental Research and Education
- Sustainability

Answer only questions within your requested area of certification.

Questions 1 and 2 within each certification area must be answered. You may then choose three questions to answer within each area.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

1 **Keeping current.** The Body of Knowledge (BOK) has been made available to you in preparing for these essay questions. Explain how you keep current within your specialty area? Identify recently published references that you would add to the BOK. Identify emerging issues in your specialty area

2 **Ethics.** You are a consultant developing a NEPA document for a large project. Your field personnel find previously-unknown key problems with the proposed project that will significantly affect the project schedule and possibly the project funding. Your client asks you to omit this information from the analysis. Describe how you would proceed.

From questions 3 to [depends on how many we have], write essays responding to three questions.

3 **Wetlands.** As a wetlands analyst how would you identify 'valuable wetlands'? Describe an example of how it has been necessary for you to assign value to a wetland. How would you mitigate unavoidable loss of such wetlands?

4 **Housing development.** A housing developer hires you as a consulting wildlife biologist to evaluate a 26-acre parcel containing woodlands and freshwater wetlands to obtain required building permits. How would you proceed?

5 **Academic institutions.** Are academic institutions adequately preparing students to enter the environmental profession? How might curricula be improved in the area of environmental assessment to enable environmental professionals to resolve complex problems and think critically?

6 **NEPA Process.** A number of publications have discussed improving and streamlining the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Based on recent agency guidance updates and changes in agency perspectives, how would you improve the quality and value of the NEPA process?

7 **Airports/noise.** How would you assess impacts of airport construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate noise or wildlife impacts?

8 **Transportation.** How would you assess impacts of transportation construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate new highway impacts to natural resources?

9 **Environmental compliance.** What difficulties have you encountered in complying with environmental legislation and/or regulations? How have you overcome such difficulties?

10 **Controversial projects.** As a resource specialist, how would you assess potential impacts of a controversial project that covers an extensive area and a variety of land use and land cover types? What conflicts may arise in such a project and how would you address them?

11 **Utilities/energy.** You manage a utility's environmental division. Company officers seek to build a 26-mile gas pipeline between a distribution location and a city in the neighboring state. They ask you to assess environmental issues as necessary to obtain required permits. How would you proceed?

- 12 **Coastal zone development** - What is the basis of the Coastal Zone Management Act? Describe what is required for a proposed action/project to be consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act ?
- 13 **State vs. federal statutes and regulations.** As an environmental consultant assigned to a project in a state in which you previously have never worked, how would you assure compliance with that state's environmental statutes and regulations? How have individual state statutes and regulations modified your approach to complying with federal statutes and regulations?
- 14 **Urban projects.** In planning for use and expansion of urban space or other large-scale projects, what influences have you found to be most effective in mitigating adverse environmental impacts? Identify and describe one or more models used for assessing the effects of community growth / land use change and land use patterns.
- 15 **Health risk assessment.** You are assigned to assess risks to human health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, soil, or workplace. How would you proceed?
- 16 **Environmental risk assessment.** You are assigned to assess risks to environmental health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, or soil. How would you proceed?
- 17 **Climate Change.** How would you suggest climate change be analyzed within the NEPA process?
- 18 **Climate Change.** What approach would you suggest for analyzing the effects of climate change on coastal zone development?
- 19 **Project Management.** Describe the basic processes necessary to ensure that an environmental project is managed successfully. Use an example from your own experience as a Project Manager and explain how you implemented the five basic project management processes including Initiation, Planning, Executing, Controlling and Closing. Include specific examples of the tools, techniques and how you used them to improve the project objectives.
- 20 **Mitigation.** How is mitigation defined and what is its importance in the NEPA process ? Provide an example of how mitigation was used to reduce environmental impacts and resulted in a mitigated FONSI.
- 21 **Public Involvement.** Establish the importance of public involvement process in environmental planning and provide two examples of the tools and techniques that you have used to effectively plan and manage the public involvement process. How effective was the public involvement process you used? Analyze the process you used and recommend changes for future public participation efforts based on your experience with the 2 examples provided.
- Sustainability.** Sustainability is a desirable endeavor for any project or entity. Describe how you have or would approach integration of sustainability concepts into either (1) planning or design of a large infrastructure project, (2) development of an operational program for industry, or (3) public policy development.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

1 **Keeping current.** The Body of Knowledge (BOK) has been made available to you in preparing for these essay questions. Explain how you keep current within your specialty area? Identify recently published references that you would add to the BOK. Identify emerging issues in your specialty area

2 **Ethics.** You are a consultant whose client must submit to a regulatory agency a plan to remediate a contaminated site. Describe how you would proceed. Imagine that your client divulged to you information about contamination undisclosed to regulators, and then requested that you maintain confidentiality. Describe how you might respond.

From questions 3 to [depends on how many we have], write essays responding to three questions.

3 **Wetlands.** You must document activities of your firm's wetlands analyst(s). How would you document their procedures for identification of 'valuable wetlands'? Describe an instance where you have been required to value a wetland. How would you document proposal(s) for mitigation of wetland losses that your field personnel tell you are unavoidable?

4 **Housing development.** A housing developer hires your consulting firm to study wildlife populations on a 26-acre parcel containing woodlands and freshwater wetlands to obtain required building permits. How would you proceed in support of data collected in the field?

5 **Academic institutions.** Are academic institutions adequately preparing students to enter the environmental profession? How might curricula be improved in the area of NEPA and environmental documentation?

6 **NEPA Process.** A number of publications have discussed improving and streamlining the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Based on recent agency guidance updates and changes in agency perspectives, how would you improve the quality and value of environmental documents? Cite specific examples where you have implemented these techniques and describe if and how they were effective in providing the required information.

7 **Airports/noise.** How would you assess impacts of airport construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate noise or wildlife impacts?

8 **Transportation.** How would you assess impacts of transportation construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate new highway impacts to natural resources?

9 **Environmental compliance.** What difficulties have you encountered in documenting compliance by your firm or client(s) with environmental legislation and/or regulations? How have you overcome such difficulties?

10 **Controversial projects.** As a resource specialist, how would you assess potential impacts of a controversial project that covers an extensive area and a variety of land use and land cover types? What conflicts may arise in such a project and how would you address them?

11 **Utilities/energy.** You manage a utility's environmental division. Company officers seek to build a 26-mile gas pipeline between a distribution location and a city in the neighboring state. They ask you to provide documentation toward obtaining required permits. How would you proceed?

- Coastal zone development.** What is the basis of the Coastal Zone Management Act?
- 12 Describe what is required for a proposed action/project to be consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act?
- State vs. federal statutes and regulations.** As an environmental consultant assigned to a project in a state in which you previously have never worked, how would you assure compliance with that state's environmental statutes and regulations? How have individual state statutes and regulations modified your approach to complying with federal statutes and regulations? How did they affect your level or type of documentation?
- 13
- Urban projects.** In planning for use and expansion of urban space or other large-scale projects, what influences have you found to be most effective in mitigating adverse environmental impacts? Identify and describe one or more models used for assessing the effects of community growth / land use change and land use patterns.
- 14
- Health risk assessment.** You are assigned to document assessment of risks to human health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, soil, or workplace. How would you proceed?
- 15
- Environmental risk assessment.** You are assigned to document assessment of risks to environmental health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, or soil. How would you proceed?
- 16
- Climate Change.** How would you suggest climate change be analyzed within the NEPA process?
- 17
- Climate Change.** What approach would you suggest for analyzing the effects of climate change on coastal zone development?
- 18
- Project Management.** Describe the basic processes necessary to ensure that an environmental project is managed successfully. Use an example from your own experience as a Project Manager and explain how you implemented the five basic project management processes including Initiation, Planning, Executing, Controlling and Closing. Include specific examples of the tools, techniques and how you used them to improve the project objectives.
- 19
- Mitigation.** How is mitigation defined and what is its importance in the NEPA process? Provide an example of how mitigation was used to reduce environmental impacts and resulted in a mitigated FONSI.
- 20
- Public Involvement.** Establish the importance of public involvement process in environmental planning and provide two examples of the tools and techniques that you have used to effectively plan and manage the public involvement process. How effective was the public involvement process you used? Analyze the process you used and recommend changes for future public participation efforts based on your experience with the 2 examples provided.
- 21
- Sustainability -** Sustainability is a desirable endeavor for any project or entity. Describe how you have or would approach integration of sustainability concepts into either (1) NEPA documentation for a large infrastructure project, (2) operational program for an industry, or (3) public policy development.
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ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATIONS

1 **Keeping current.** The Body of Knowledge (BOK) has been made available to you in preparing for these essay questions. Explain how you keep current within your specialty area? Identify recently published references that you would add to the BOK. Identify emerging issues in your specialty area

2 **Ethics.** You work for a firm that operates private facilities under contract. Your client's facility must submit to a regulatory agency a plan to remediate a Superfund site. Describe how you might assure that your firm's operations would satisfy regulations and regulators. Your field personnel divulged to you information about contamination that you knew was undisclosed to regulators; the client requested that you maintain confidentiality. Describe your ethic responsibility and how you might respond.

From questions 3 to [depends on how many we have], write essays responding to three questions.

3 **Wetlands.** You must document activities of your firm's wetlands analyst(s). How would you document their procedures for identification of 'valuable wetlands'? Describe an instance where you have been required to value a wetland. How would you document proposal(s) for mitigation of wetland losses that your field personnel tell you are unavoidable?

4 **Housing development.** A housing developer hires the consulting firm that you manage to study wildlife populations on a 26-acre parcel containing woodlands and freshwater wetlands to obtain required building permits. How would you proceed in support of your client?

5 **Academic institutions.** Are academic institutions adequately preparing students to enter the environmental profession? How might curricula be improved in the area of environmental operations?

6 **Environmental assessments/impact statements.** How would you improve the quality and value of *Environmental Assessments* and/or *Environmental Impact Statements*?

7 **Airports/noise.** How would you assess impacts of airport construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate noise or wildlife impacts?

8 **Transportation.** How would you assess impacts of transportation construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate new highway impacts to natural resources?

9 **Environmental compliance.** What difficulties have you encountered in documenting compliance by your firm or client(s) with environmental legislation and/or regulations? How have you overcome such difficulties?

10 **Controversial projects.** As a resource specialist, how would you assess potential impacts of a controversial project that covers an extensive area and a variety of land use and land cover types? What conflicts may arise in such a project and how would you address them?

- 11 **Utilities/energy.** You manage a utility's environmental division. Company officers seek to build a 26-mile gas pipeline between a distribution location and a city in the neighboring state. They ask you to obtaining required permits. How would you proceed?
- 12 **Coastal zone development.** What is the basis of the Coastal Zone Management Act? Describe what is required for a proposed action/project to be consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act?
- 13 **State vs. federal statutes and regulations.** As an environmental manager assigned to a project in a state in which you previously have never worked, how would you assure compliance with that state's environmental statutes and regulations? How have individual state statutes and regulations modified your approach to complying with federal statutes and regulations?
- 14 **Urban projects.** In planning for use and expansion of urban space or other large-scale projects, what influences have you found to be most effective in mitigating adverse environmental impacts? Identify and describe one or more models used for assessing the effects of community growth / land use change and land use patterns.
- 15 **Health risk assessment.** You are assigned to manage a project to assess risks to human health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, soil, or workplace. How would you proceed?
- 16 **Environmental risk assessment.** You are assigned to manage a project to assess risks to environmental health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, or soil. How would you proceed?
- 17 **Climate Change.** How would you suggest climate change be analyzed within the NEPA process?
- 18 **Climate Change.** What approach would you suggest for analyzing the effects of climate change on coastal zone development?
- 19 **Project Management.** Describe the basic processes necessary to ensure that an environmental project is managed successfully. Use an example from your own experience as a Project Manager and explain how you implemented the five basic project management processes including Initiation, Planning, Executing, Controlling and Closing. Include specific examples of the tools, techniques and how you used them to improve the project objectives.
- Mitigation.** How is mitigation defined and what is its importance in the NEPA process ? Provide an example of how mitigation was used to reduce environmental impacts and resulted in a mitigated FONSI.
- Public Involvement.** Establish the importance of public involvement process in environmental planning and provide two examples of the tools and techniques that you have used to effectively plan and manage the public involvement process. How effective was the public involvement process you used? Analyze the process you used and recommend changes for future public participation efforts based on your experience with the 2 examples provided.
- Sustainability.** Sustainability is a desirable endeavor for any project or entity. Describe how you have or would approach integration of sustainability concepts into either a NEPA project, operational program, or policy development

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

1 **Keeping current.** The Body of Knowledge (BOK) has been made available to you in preparing for these essay questions. Explain how you keep current within your specialty area? Identify recently published references that you would add to the BOK. Identify emerging issues in your specialty area

2 **Ethics.** You work for a firm that operates private facilities under contract. Your client's facility must submit to a regulatory agency a plan to remediate a Superfund site. Describe how you might assure that your firm's operations would satisfy regulations and regulators. Your field personnel divulged to you information about contamination that you knew was undisclosed to regulators; the client requested that you maintain confidentiality. Describe your ethic responsibility and how you might respond.

From questions 3 to [depends on how many we have], write essays responding to three questions.

3 **Wetlands.** Your company plans to develop a wetland. How will you assure that your firm's wetland analyst(s) will satisfy regulations and regulators? How would you assure that they identify all 'valuable wetlands'? How would you propose to mitigate wetland losses that your field personnel tell you are unavoidable?

4 **Housing development.** A housing developer hires the planning firm that you manage to protect wildlife populations on a 26-acre parcel containing woodlands and fresh water wetlands to obtain required building permits. How would you proceed in support of your client?

5 **Academic institutions.** Are academic institutions adequately preparing students to enter the environmental profession? How might curricula be improved in the area of environmental planning?

6 **Environmental assessments/impact statements.** How would you improve the quality and value of *Environmental Assessments* and/or *Environmental Impact Statements*?

7 **Airports/noise.** How would you assess impacts of airport construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate noise or wildlife impacts?

8 **Transportation.** How would you assess impacts of transportation construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate new highway impacts to natural resources?

9 **Environmental compliance.** What planning difficulties have you encountered in assuring compliance by your firm or client(s) with environmental legislation and/or regulations? How have you overcome such difficulties?

10 **Controversial projects.** As a planner, how would you interact with your firm's team of biologists and/or ecologists who are engaged in assessing potential impacts of a controversial project requiring extensive acreage?

- 11 **Utilities/energy.** You manage a utility's environmental division. Company officers seek to build a 26-mile gas pipeline between a distribution location and a city in the neighboring state. They ask you to formulate plans for obtaining required permits. How would you proceed?
- 12 **Coastal zone development.** What is the basis of the Coastal Zone Management Act? Describe what is required for a proposed action/project to be consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act ?
- 13 **State vs. federal statutes and regulations.** As a planner assigned to a project in a state in which you previously have never worked, how would you assure compliance with that state's environmental statutes and regulations? How have individual state statutes and regulations modified your approach to planning projects in a manner that also assures compliance with federal statutes and regulations?
- 14 **Urban projects.** In planning for use and expansion of urban space or other large-scale projects, what influences have you found to be most effective in mitigating adverse environmental impacts? Identify and describe one or more models used for assessing the effects of community growth / land use change and land use patterns.
- 15 **Health risk assessment.** You are assigned to plan a project requiring assessment of risks to human health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, soil, or workplace. How would you proceed?
- 16 **Environmental risk assessment.** You are assigned to plan a project requiring assessment of risks to environmental health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, or soil. How would you proceed?
- 17 **Climate Change.** How would you suggest climate change be analyzed within the planning process?
- 18 **Climate Change.** What approach would you suggest for analyzing the effects of climate change on coastal zone development?
- 19 **Project Management.** Describe the basic processes necessary to ensure that an environmental project is managed successfully. Use an example from your own experience as a Project Manager and explain how you implemented the five basic project management processes including Initiation, Planning, Executing, Controlling and Closing. Include specific examples of the tools, techniques and how you used them to improve the project objectives.
- 20 **Mitigation.** How is mitigation defined and what is its importance in the NEPA process ? Provide an example of how mitigation was used to reduce environmental impacts and resulted in a mitigated FONSI.
- 21 **Public Involvement.** Establish the importance of public involvement process in environmental planning and provide two examples of the tools and techniques that you have used to effectively plan and manage the public involvement process. How effective was the public involvement process you used? Analyze the process you used and recommend changes for future public participation efforts based on your experience with the 2 examples provided.

- 22 **Sustainability.** Sustainability is a desirable endeavor for any project or entity. Describe how you have or would approach integration of sustainability concepts into either (1) planning and design of a large infrastructure project, (2) development of an operational program for industry, or (3) public policy development.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

- 1 **Keeping current.** The Body of Knowledge (BOK) has been made available to you in preparing for these essay questions. Explain how you keep current within your specialty area? Identify recently published references that you would add to the BOK. Identify emerging issues in your specialty area

- 2 **Ethics.** You work for a firm that operates private facilities under contract. Your client's facility must submit to a regulatory agency a plan to remediate a Superfund site. Describe how you might assure that your firm's operations would satisfy regulations and regulators. Your field personnel divulged to you information about contamination that you knew was undisclosed to regulators; the client requested that you maintain confidentiality. Describe your ethic responsibility and how you might respond.

From questions 3 to [depends on how many we have], write essays responding to three questions.

- 3 **Wetlands.** Your lesson describes a firm that plans to develop a wetland. How should you teach students to ensure that the firm's wetland analyst(s) will satisfy regulations and regulators relative to the agency's "No Net Loss" philosophy? How should they identify all 'valuable wetlands'? How should they propose to mitigate wetland losses that field personnel say are unavoidable?

- 4 **Housing development.** Your lesson describes a housing developer who hires a firm to inventory wildlife populations occupying a 26-acre parcel containing woodlands and freshwater wetlands to obtain required building permits. How would you teach students to proceed in support of the client?

- 5 **Academic institutions.** Are academic institutions adequately preparing students to enter the environmental profession? How might curricula be improved in the area of environmental education?

- 6 **Environmental assessments/impact statements.** How would you improve the quality and value of *Environmental Assessments* and/or *Environmental Impact Statements*?

- 7 **Airports/noise.** How would you assess impacts of airport construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate noise or wildlife impacts?

- 8 **Transportation.** How would you assess impacts of transportation construction and/or expansion? How might you propose to mitigate new highway impacts to natural resources?

- 9 **Environmental compliance.** What difficulties have you encountered in case studies involving compliance with environmental legislation and/or regulations? How have such difficulties been overcome?

- 10 **Controversial projects.** As an environmental sciences professor, how would you teach students to interact with their firm's team of biologists and/or ecologists who are engaged in assessing potential impacts of a controversial project requiring extensive acreage?
- 11 **Utilities/energy.** Your lesson describes a utility's environmental division. Company officers seek to build a 26-mile gas pipeline between a distribution location and a city in the neighboring state. They seek required permits. How should the utility's environmental professional staff proceed?
- 12 **Coastal zone development.** What is the basis of the Coastal Zone Management Act? How would you teach students to apply the principles of the Coastal Zone Management Act to a proposed waterfront highrise project? How would you assess student success in grasping CZMA principles?
- 13 **State vs. federal statutes and regulations.** Your lesson describes an environmental professional assigned to a project in a state in which he or she previously has never worked. How would you teach students to assure compliance with that state's environmental statutes and regulations? How might you assess a student's competency in this skill?
- 14 **Urban projects.** In planning for use and expansion of urban space or other large-scale projects, what influences have you found to be most effective in mitigating adverse environmental impacts? Describe how you might teach one or more models used for assessing the effects of community growth / land use change and land use patterns and how you would assess a student's competency in this.
- 15 **Health risk assessment.** Your lesson describes an environmental professional assigned to plan a project requiring assessment of risks to human health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, soil, or workplace. How should students learn to proceed? How can you assess their knowledge of this topic?
- 16 **Environmental risk assessment.** Your lesson describes an environmental professional assigned to plan a project requiring assessment of risks to environmental health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, or soil. How should students learn to proceed? How can you assess their knowledge of this topic?
- 17 **Climate Change.** How would you suggest teaching how climate change should be analyzed within the planning process using problem solving methods? How might you assess your student's understanding of this topic?
- 18 **Climate Change.** What approach would you suggest teaching analysis of the effects of climate change on coastal zone development using problem solving methods? How might you assess your student's understanding of this topic?
- 19 **Project Management.** Describe the basic processes necessary to ensure that an environmental project is managed successfully. Use an example from your own experience as a Project Manager of how you implemented the five basic project management processes including Initiation, Planning, Executing, Controlling and Closing. How would you teach Environmental Project Management to students? How would you assess their understanding of the topic?

- 20 **Mitigation.** How is mitigation measured and what is its importance in the NEPA process? Provide an example of how mitigation was assessed to reduce environmental impacts and resulted in a mitigated FONSI.

- 21 **Public Involvement.** Establish the importance of public involvement process in environmental planning and provide two examples of the tools and techniques that you have used to effectively plan and manage a problematic public involvement process. What was the outcome of the public involvement process for the design process for the project(s) where the example tools were used?

- 22 **Sustainability.** Sustainability is a desirable endeavor for any project or entity. Describe how you have or would approach integration of sustainability concepts into either (1) planning and design of a large infrastructure project, (2) development of an operational program for industry, or (3) public policy development.

SUSTAINABILITY

- 1 **Keeping current.** The Body of Knowledge (BOK) has been made available to you in preparing for these essay questions. Explain how you keep current within your specialty area? Identify recently published references that you would add to the BOK. Identify emerging issues in your specialty area

- 2 **Ethics.** You work for a firm that operates private facilities under contract. Your client's facility must submit to a regulatory agency a plan to remediate a Superfund site. Describe how you might assure that your firm's operations would satisfy regulations and regulators. Your field personnel divulged to you information about contamination that you knew was undisclosed to regulators; the client requested that you maintain confidentiality. Describe your ethical responsibility and how you might respond.

From questions 3 to [depends on how many we have], write essays responding to three questions.

- 3 **Wetlands.** You are a wetlands analyst working for a regional government. A developer is proposing to build a 200 parcel retirement community on a large tract of land, which includes a substantial area classified as a wetland. The developer proposes to fill in those wetlands and mitigate the loss of those wetlands by creating and restoring wetlands on another property. You are asked to evaluate the developer's wetlands mitigation plan and make a recommendation? How would you evaluate the mitigation plan? What are the critical issues that must be addressed if approval is to be granted? How do ecosystem services factor into the assessment? What are the social and economic impacts of the plan?

- 4 **Housing Development.** You have been asked to assess two proposals for a low-income housing development. One of the proposals is for a 24-unit apartment complex in a suburban neighborhood and the other is for an equal-sized unit in an inner-city neighborhood. The city is eager to invest in sustainable development. What issues or criteria should they consider to help them choose between the two options?

- 5 **Academic Institutions.** Are academic institutions adequately preparing students for careers in the natural and built environment? How might curricula be improved to address the challenges inherent in a rapidly emerging field, such as sustainability?

- 6 **Environmental assessments/impact statements.** How would you improve the quality and value of *Environmental Assessments* and/or *Environmental Impact Statements*?
- 7 **Airports/noise.** How would you teach students to approach a project to assess sustainable methods of construction and/or expansion? How should students approach the issue of mitigating non-sustainable practices required by a project?
- 8 **Transportation.** How would you teach someone to approach a project to assess sustainable methods of construction and/or expansion? How should students approach the issue of mitigating non-sustainable practices required by a project?
- 9 **Environmental compliance.** What difficulties have you encountered in sustainable practices relative to environmental legislation and/or regulations? How have you used non-traditional methods to overcome such difficulties?
- 10 **Controversial projects.** As a planner or designer, describe how you would integrate sustainability principles into the planning of a potentially controversial project such as a power plant, landfill, or major transportation improvement. Describe how integrating sustainability principles into planning and design improve the quality and longevity of the project and address agency public concerns as part of the overall decision-making process.
- 11 **Utilities/energy.** Company officers seek to build a 26-mile gas pipeline between a distribution location and a city in the neighboring state. They seek required permits. How should the utility's environmental professional staff proceed with sustainability in mind?
- 12 **Coastal zone development.** An executive in a corporation that wants to develop 19 acres of marine bay waterfront for high rise construction requests a proposal from a faculty colleague in the Environmental Sciences Department that you chair. How would you respond to ensure that sustainable practices are incorporated into the project?
- 13 **State vs. federal statutes and regulations.** You are an environmental professional assigned to a project in a state in which you previously have never worked. How would you incorporate sustainability to the project while remaining in compliance with that state's environmental statutes and regulations? How might individual state statutes and regulations modify your approach to planning sustainable projects in a manner that also assures compliance with federal statutes and regulations?
- 14 **Urban Projects.** In planning for use and expansion of urban space or other large-scale projects, what steps would you take to integrate planned projects with existing projects so that the net result is an improvement of urban systems functions, as well as adaptability and resiliency in the face of a changing climate?
- 15 **Health risk assessment.** You are an environmental professional assigned to plan a project requiring assessment of risks to human health potentially posed by a substance or substances that will be emitted to the air, water, soil, or workplace. How does this process apply to sustainability?
- 16 **NEPA Process.** A number of publications have discussed improving and streamlining the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Based on recent agency guidance updates and changes in agency perspectives, how would you improve the quality and value of the NEPA process?

- 17 **Climate Change.** How would you suggest teaching how climate change should be analyzed within the planning process?
- 18 **Climate Change.** What approach would you suggest teaching analysis of the effects of climate change on coastal zone development?
- 19 **Project Management.** Describe the basic processes necessary to engage your client and stakeholders in planning for sustainable infrastructure projects. Describe the process and project goals that would be achieved and what metrics should be established for the project as measurement of project sustainability.
- 20 **Mitigation.** How is mitigation defined and what is its importance in environmental planning and review processes? Describe how the integration of sustainable principles could reduce the need for or be used in place of compensatory mitigation?
- 21 **Public Involvement.** Establish the importance of the public involvement process in sustainable planning and provide two examples of the tools and techniques that you have used to effectively plan and manage the public involvement process. What was the outcome of the public involvement process for the project(s) where the example tools were used?