

# Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process

What's  
an  
EIS?

An EIS is a comprehensive study that provides the public and decision-makers with key information on the **alternatives under consideration** and their **potential impacts** to the built, natural, and human environments within the project study area.

A Tier 1 EIS includes:

Broad,  
high-level  
environmental  
review

"Desktop  
analysis" based  
on available  
mapping,  
information

Physical  
(footprint) effects  
based on corridor  
alternatives

Scoping Process

*Notice of Intent (NOI) published, initiating a formal scoping process.*

Draft EIS

*Draft EIS approved by Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).*

Public Comment Period

*45-day period to receive public and agency input.*

Final EIS/  
Record of Decision

*Combined Final EIS/Record of Decision (ROD) will identify the Preferred Corridor Alternative.*

FRA publishes Notice of  
Availability in Federal  
Register

*Analysis will be refined during **Tier 2** studies.*

Georgia on the Move

Atlanta to Chattanooga High Speed Ground Transportation Project



## NEPA Process and Project Timeline