



# Environmental Assessment (EA)

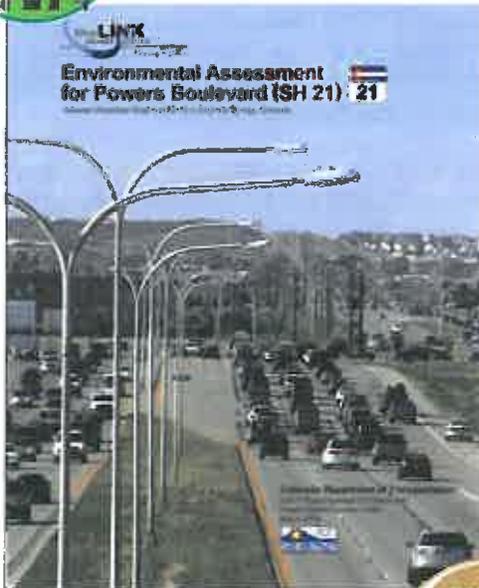


Photo Source: Colorado Department of Transportation



14-0005-11



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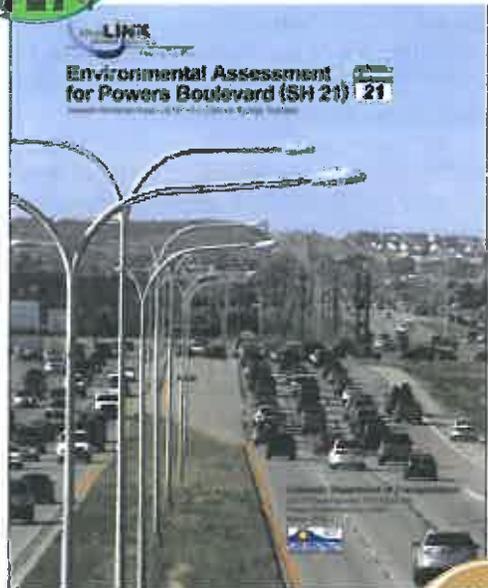


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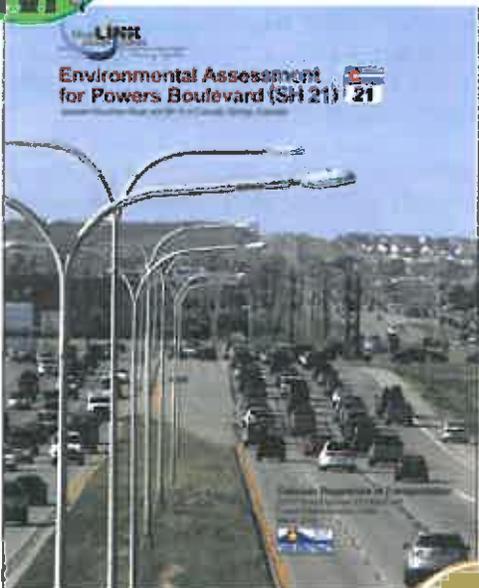


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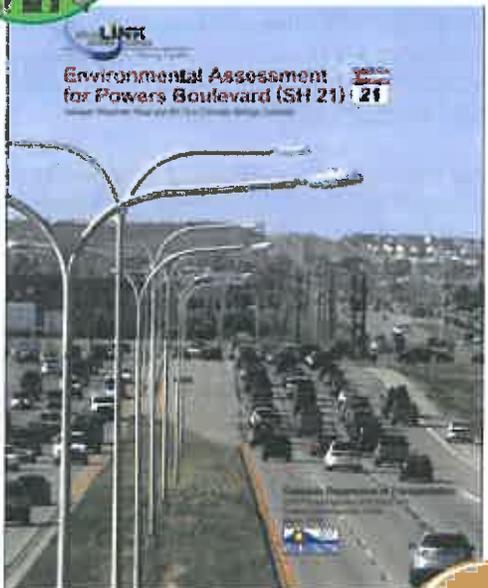


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## Environmental Assessment (EA)

Before it can approve a transportation project or other action, a Federal agency such as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) must evaluate the project's social, economic and environmental impacts. If it is unclear whether or not the project would have significant impacts, the agency can document its evaluation in an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Based on the EA findings, together with public and input from other agencies, the EA typically leads to either of two next steps:

- a Finding of No Significant Impact; or
- A decision that the project will need to have an Environmental Impact Statement.

The Colorado Department of Transportation partners with the appropriate federal agencies (e.g., Federal Highway Administration, for road improvements) to prepare EAs for Colorado transportation projects.

Regulations: 40 CFR 1500-1508



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