<u>ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS</u>: means an evaluation of different parameters, mitigation measures, or control measures that would accomplish the same objectives as those included in the proposed action by the applicant. For a project that is not a state-sponsored project, it does not include an alternative facility or an alternative to the proposed project itself. The term includes alternatives required pursuant to Title 75, chapter 20. (75-1-220, MCA)

ALTERNATIVE:

- (a)(i) an alternate approach or course of action that would appreciably accomplish the same objectives or results as the proposed action;
- (ii) design parameters, mitigation, or controls other than those incorporated into a proposed action by an applicant or by an agency prior to preparation of an EA or draft EIS;
- (iii) no action or denial; and
- (iv) for agency-initiated actions, a different program or series of activities that would accomplish other objectives or a different use of resources than the proposed program or series of activities
- (b) The agency is required to consider only alternatives that are realistic, technologically available, and that represent a course of action that bears a logical relationship to the proposal being evaluated. (ARM 17.4.603(2))

<u>Categorical exclusion:</u> refers to a type of action which does not individually, collectively, or cumulatively require an EA or EIS, as determined by rulemaking or programmatic review adopted by the agency, unless extraordinary circumstances, as defined by rulemaking or programmatic review, occur. ARM 17.4.603 (5)

<u>Cumulative impact:</u> means the collective impacts on the human environment of the proposed action when considered in conjunction with other past and present actions related to the proposed action by location or generic type. Related future actions must also be considered when these actions are under concurrent consideration by any state agency through pre-impact statement studies, separate impact statement evaluation, or permit processing procedures. (ARM 17.4.603 (7))

Environmental assessment: (EA) means a written analysis of a proposed action to determine whether an EIS is required or to serve one or more of the other purposes described in ARM 17.4.607(2). (ARM 17.4.603 (9))

Environmental impact statement: (EIS) means the detailed written statement required by section 75-1-201, MCA, which may take several forms: a) "draft environmental impact statement" means a detailed written statement prepared to the fullest extent possible in accordance with 75-1-201(1) (b) (iii), MCA, and these rules;

- (b) "final environmental impact statement" means a written statement prepared to the fullest extent possible in accordance with 75-1-201, MCA, and ARM 17.4.618 or 17.4.619 and which responds to substantive comments received on the draft environmental impact statement;
- (c) "joint environmental impact statement" means an EIS prepared jointly by more than one agency, either state or federal, when the agencies are involved in the same or a closely related proposed action. (ARM 17.4.603 (10))

<u>Programmatic review:</u> means an analysis (EIS or EA) of the impacts on the quality of the human environment of related actions, programs, or policies. (ARM 17.4.603 (15))

<u>Secondary impact:</u> means a further impact to the human environment that may be stimulated or induced by or otherwise result from a direct impact of the action. ARM 17.4.603 (18)