



State of Connecticut  
Department of Economic and  
Community Development

DECD Regional Economic Development Bulletin 1  
Date: October 19, 2010

**SUBJECT: STATE APPROVAL PROCESS FOR REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS (CEDDS) AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS**

Below is a summary of steps for regional CEDDS and district approvals in accord with P.A.10-168:

**Step One: CEDDS Approval (Note: If the CEDDS was previously approved by U.S. EDA, skip items 1 and 2)**

1. An eligible regional economic development district board of directors prepares a CEDDS and approves it;
2. The CEDDS is submitted to the Regional Planning Organizations (RPO) in the district (if the RPO is not a member CEDDS committee); the RPO has 90 days to complete their review and provide their findings and recommendations;
3. Under separate cover letters from the Chairman/designee of the Board of Directors, submit a full copy of the CEDDS document and related attachments to both the DECD commissioner and the OPM secretary. If this is a new CEDDS, attachments must include RPO comments (if any). If the CEDDS was previously approved by U.S. EDA, attachments must include a copy of the U.S. EDA CEDDS approval letter.
4. The date of receipt will begin each agency's 60-day review timeframe.
5. Key State Review Items:
  - a) Section 2(a) of PA 10-168 requires that a CEDDS address identified economic development problems in a manner that promotes economic development and opportunity, housing availability, fosters effective transportation access, improves workforce development, enhances and protects the environment, balances growth through sound management of development and encourages responsible growth and development.
  - b) According to P.A. 10-168(b) an applicant must define the region either along one or more regional planning area boundaries, or to the extent practical, be contiguous with the boundaries of former county government regions.
  - c) At least one municipality in the region must meet the U.S.EDA established distress criteria 13 CFR 301.3(a)(1).
  - d) Include a list of the Board of Directors and quarterly meeting schedule (include approval letter from the Board).
  - e) Consistency with the State Economic Strategic Plan and the State Conservation and Development Policies Plan (cite Section 2(c) of PA 10-168).
6. Upon favorable completion of state agency reviews, DECD and OPM issue separate approval letters to the Chairman/designee of the Board of Directors.

**Step Two: District Approval**

**Upon completion of Step One and the issuance of CEDDS approval letters from DECD and OPM:**

1. REDD Board of Directors may formally request district designation from the DECD commissioner.
2. DECD reviews request.
3. Upon DECD approval, Commissioner submits the recommendation to the Governor for district approval.
4. Upon such designation by the Governor, the board of directors may request federal designation as an economic development district from the Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce.