



Northern Border Regional Commission

September 3, 2025

Northern Border Regional Commission Lapse Plan

To be enacted in the event of a lapse in governmental appropriations.

The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) is funded on a “no year” basis, and as such, consistent with **OMB Circular A-11, Section 124**, (*Agency Operations in the Absence of an Appropriation*) NBRC would be able to maintain operations in the near-term using any administrative funds remaining from the previous Fiscal Year, provided they are appropriately apportioned.

Regardless of the status of NBRC’s full-year appropriation, the Commission may continue to incur obligations to the extent that those obligations can be funded by balances from its prior “no-year” funding. Per OMB Circular A-11, Section 124.1, “Agency functions that are financed with appropriations that have not lapsed may continue and are ‘exempt’ from any shutdown procedures, even while a lapse has occurred in other appropriations.”

In a new Fiscal Year in which there is a lapse in appropriations, day-to-day NBRC operations would be maintained such that regularly scheduled business, grants management and servicing can continue, although any new business would be put on hold. Should a lapse extend for a prolonged period, it may be necessary for NBRC to take measures to shut down activities as required by **OMB Circular A-11, Section 124.3**. Shutdown procedures will proceed in a manner that minimizes disruption in service to existing grantees. For example, NBRC may curtail mission critical travel and suspend or eliminate administrative contracts. Shutdown activities may also include furloughing staff, beginning with shortening work weeks, and finally furloughing all non-grant staff members. Staff members who work directly with grantees will be among the last staff furloughed. Finally, the NBRC will delay any *new* programmatic activities until an appropriation is secured.

The Executive Director will be responsible for communicating with staff regarding their furlough status as operations shut down. The Federal Co-Chair (as Agency Head, referenced below), will notify the Executive Director when appropriations resume, following notification from OMB. At that point, the Executive Director will notify staff where and when to begin reporting for work.

Please note that the Federal Co-Chair will be the only NBRC employee to continue to report for work during the entire shutdown period described above, as this position is classified as **PAS**, and is therefore excepted, as authorized by law. Currently the Federal Co-Chair is not the primary contact for OMB, and as such, his email address and phone number are included below:

Email: fedcochair@nbroc.gov

Phone: 202-590-6650

Lapse Plan Summary Overview									
Estimated time (to nearest half day) required to complete shutdown activities							1 day		
Total number of agency employees expected to be on board before the implementation of the plan							18 FTE& 1 PTE		
Total number of agency employees expected to be furloughed under the plan (unduplicated count)							18 FTE& 1 PTE		
Total number of employees to be retained under the plan for each of the following categories (may include duplicated counts):									
Compensation to be financed by resources other than annual appropriations:							18 FTE& 1 PTE		
Necessary to perform activities expressly authorized by law							18 FTE& 1 PTE		
Necessary to perform activities necessarily implied by law							18 FTE& 1 PTE		
Necessary to discharge of the President's constitutional duties and powers							0 FTE		
Necessary to protect life and property							1 FTE		
Brief Summary of significant agency activities that will continue during a lapse:									
NBRC would be able to maintain agency activities during a lapse using any administrative funds remaining from the previous Fiscal Year, provided they are appropriated apportioned. Once prior year funds are exhausted all agency activities will cease.									
Brief summary of significant agency activities that will cease during a lapse:									
Once prior year funds are exhausted, NBRC would cease awarding new grants for economic and community development purposes and would cease other activities in service of promoting new programs.									

This plan has been reviewed by NBRC legal counsel and was submitted to the Federal Office of Management & Budget on September 3, 2025.

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