



**Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants**

*A Joint Venture of URS Group, Inc. and Dewberry & Davis, LLC*

July 17, 2007

Mr. Ray Aycock  
Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jackson Field Office  
6578 Dogwood View Parkway  
Suite A  
Jackson, MS 39213

**Re: Request for Project Review – Relocation of the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center’s Live Oaks Treatment Center, Harrison County, Mississippi**

Dear Mr. Aycock:

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) Program for the proposed relocation and expansion of the Live Oaks Treatment Center (LOTC) formerly located at 15094 County Barn Road within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (see Figure 1).

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina’s storm surge severely damaged the LOTC. The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center utilized the facility as a residential alcohol and drug treatment center for people in the Gulfport area. The LOTC utilized a 4,640-square-foot, one-story pre-engineered metal framed building within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport. The storm surge and associated high winds from Hurricane Katrina severely damaged the LOTC. The LOTC was located in Zone X, outside of the 100-year floodplain; however, the LOTC was within the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) and surge inundation zone, with some areas receiving up to 5 feet of water. Damages to the facility exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA’s criteria for replacement. The facility will be demolished and the site returned to grade and revegetated.

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center proposes to relocate and expand the LOTC to a 5.9-acre wooded parcel located to the south of the former LOTC building (see Figure 2). Construction of the new facility will require clearing approximately 0.45 acre of the project site. The project site is bordered to the north by a continuation of a wooded area and Bernard Bayou, to the west by the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex, to the south by Country Barn Road, and to the east by an unnamed tributary to Bernard Bayou. The project site is located outside the 100-year floodplain (Zone X), but is within the ABFE. The new facility will be elevated to 18 feet above mean sea level to meet ABFE requirements.

NISTAC has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed relocation project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, NISTAC requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information on resources under your agency’s jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by telephone at 301.670.3379 or electronic mail at [angela\\_chaisson@urscorp.com](mailto:angela_chaisson@urscorp.com).

Sincerely,

**NISTAC**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angela M. Chaisson".

Angela M. Chaisson  
Senior NEPA Specialist

Cc: Brian Mehok, FEMA Transitional Recovery Office – Biloxi, MS

200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
TEL 301-670-3376  
FAX 301-869-8728



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Mr. James D. Giattina  
Director  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Water Management Division  
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

**Re: Request for Project Review – Relocation of the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center’s Live Oaks Treatment Center, Harrison County, Mississippi**

Dear Mr. Giattina:

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) Program for the proposed relocation and expansion of the Live Oaks Treatment Center (LOTTC) formerly located at 15094 County Barn Road within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (see Figure 1).

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina’s storm surge severely damaged the LOTTC. The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center utilized the facility as a residential alcohol and drug treatment center for people in the Gulfport area. The LOTTC utilized a 4,640-square-foot, one-story pre-engineered metal framed building within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport. The storm surge and associated high winds from Hurricane Katrina severely damaged the LOTTC. The LOTTC was located in Zone X, outside of the 100-year floodplain; however, the LOTTC was within the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) and surge inundation zone, with some areas receiving up to 5 feet of water. Damages to the facility exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA’s criteria for replacement. The facility will be demolished and the site returned to grade and revegetated.

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center proposes to relocate and expand the LOTTC to a 5.9-acre wooded parcel located to the south of the former LOTTC building (see Figure 2). Construction of the new facility will require clearing approximately 0.45 acre of the project site. The project site is bordered to the north by a continuation of a wooded area and Bernard Bayou, to the west by the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex, to the south by Country Barn Road, and to the east by an unnamed tributary to Bernard Bayou. The project site is located outside the 100-year floodplain (Zone X), but is within the ABFE. The new facility will be elevated to 18 feet above mean sea level to meet ABFE requirements.

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Mr. Homer L. Wilkes  
State Conservationist  
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
100 W. Capitol Street  
Suite 1321 Federal Bldg.  
Jackson, MS 39269

**Re: Request for Project Review – Relocation of the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center’s Live Oaks Treatment Center, Harrison County, Mississippi**

Dear Mr. Wilkes:

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) Program for the proposed relocation and expansion of the Live Oaks Treatment Center (LOTC) formerly located at 15094 County Barn Road within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (see Figure 1).

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July 17, 2007

Mr. Claiborne Barnwell  
Chief  
Mississippi Department of Transportation, Environmental Division  
Administration Building  
P.O. Box 1850  
Jackson, MS 39215-1850

**Re: Request for Project Review – Relocation of the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center’s Live Oaks Treatment Center, Harrison County, Mississippi**

Dear Mr. Barnwell:

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) Program for the proposed relocation and expansion of the Live Oaks Treatment Center (LOT) formerly located at 15094 County Barn Road within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (see Figure 1).

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina’s storm surge severely damaged the LOT. The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center utilized the facility as a residential alcohol and drug treatment center for people in the Gulfport area. The LOT utilized a 4,640-square-foot, one-story pre-engineered metal framed building within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport. The storm surge and associated high winds from Hurricane Katrina severely damaged the LOT. The LOT was located in Zone X, outside of the 100-year floodplain; however, the LOT was within the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) and surge inundation zone, with some areas receiving up to 5 feet of water. Damages to the facility exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA’s criteria for replacement. The facility will be demolished and the site returned to grade and revegetated.

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July 17, 2007

Robin Zantow  
Administrative Assistant  
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting  
1141 Bayview Avenue  
Biloxi, MS 39530

**Re: Request for Project Review – Relocation of the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center’s Live Oaks Treatment Center, Harrison County, Mississippi**

Dear Ms. Zantow:

The Gulf Coast Mental Health Center has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) Program for the proposed relocation and expansion of the Live Oaks Treatment Center (LOTC) formerly located at 15094 County Barn Road within the Gulf Coast Mental Health Center complex in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (see Figure 1).

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