U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA 415 N 15th Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802



August 12, 2006

Johnny Gonzales GOHSEP PAO FEMA-1603-DR-LA 415 N. 15th Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

RE: Alternative Arrangements, Reconstruction of Critical Infrastructure in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area, EOR1917 UNO-ATM Building 12810, Facility Planning and Control, State of Louisiana PW#: 12949, DR-1603-LA, PA ID: 000-UXL4N-00

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Public Assistance project for EOR1917 UNO-ATM Building 12810, 2000 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana 70148 (30.02951N, 90.06513W), qualifies for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Alternative Arrangements for the Reconstruction of Critical Infrastructure in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area.

Under the regular Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) NEPA review this project would have qualified for a Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) XV. However, due to the unprecedented number of grants requested that need to be processed in a short time, the potential cumulative effects, and potential environmentally-related socio-economic effects of FEMA's funding in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area, FEMA has determined that this type of action may have significant impacts that cannot be reviewed under the normal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. FEMA, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) have adopted the Alternative Arrangements to address the basic elements of NEPA under these circumstances. For more information visit www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/noma/index.shtm.

While the use of Alternative Arrangements meets NEPA compliance requirements, there are requirements of other Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) laws and Executive Orders that must be individually complied with. For the work described in this Project Worksheet (PW) the following conditions relating to those requirements apply:

• This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) has determined that receipt of federal assistance is consistent with the Louisiana coastal resource program. Projects within the coastal zone may still require a Coastal Use Permit (CUP) or other authorization from LDNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting LDNR at 1-800-267-4019.

Please note that this transmittal is a notification that this project has been cleared under NEPA only. This is not a notice of final approval or eligibility. Any change beyond the approved scope of work for this project will require additional environmental review by FEMA.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Fairley, REM
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA

Enclosures: Project Worksheet

Cc: Oliver Mack, FEMA DPAO for Grants