

Public Notice of the Intent to Construct a Training and Decontamination Equipment Storage Facility

The Public is hereby notified of the intent of the Edgar County Emergency Service and Disaster Agency (ESDA) to construct Training and Decontamination Equipment Storage (TDES) facilities in Paris, Illinois.

The need for construction of the proposed TDES facilities is based upon the ongoing destruction of chemical agent hazards at the Newport Chemical Depot (NECD), Newport, Indiana as mandated by Public Law 99-145. Construction of the proposed TDES Facilities will provide a secure space for emergency training and the storage of decontamination equipment that does not now exist at the current fire or police stations that are deemed necessary to protect the public in areas that could be affected in the event of an accident/incident involving chemical agents stored at the NECD.

Funding of the proposed TDES facilities is to be provided through U.S. Army and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Chemical Stockpile and Emergency Preparedness (CSEP) Program whose goal is to ensure that communities in the immediate vicinity of the depots are capable of providing maximum protection from chemical agent hazards.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA is required to consider the effects of the short and long term affects of the proposed activity on the community, public health and the environment. These issues will be evaluated in a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to be submitted for FEMA review and comment. The EA addresses the purpose and need of the proposed project, project alternatives considered, the affected environment, project and environmental consequences, and adverse impact mitigation measures.

Notice of the Draft EA Available for Comment: The Draft EA is available for viewing at the following locations: Paris Public Library; 207 South Main Street, Paris, Illinois, 61944 and on the web at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/>

Comments will be accepted until Wednesday, December 27, 2006. Comments should be sent to: Jeanne Millin, Federal Emergency Management Agency Region V, Regional Environmental Officer, 536 South Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60605, phone (312) 408-5540. email: Jeanne.millin@dhs.gov