Record of Environmental Consideration

See 44 Code of Federal Regulation Part 10.

Project Name/Number: Canal Electrical Repairs – Randolph Building / PW 10744

Project Location: 2817 Canal Street, City of New Orleans, Louisiana, Orleans Parish 70119
(N29.96703, W-90.08918)

Project Description: Project activities include removing and replacing 13 panel boards, 528 breakers, 24 GFI breakers, 251 receptacles, 21 data jacks, 20 junction boxes, 24,000 linear feet of cabling, and 26,228 linear feet of ground wire. A hazard mitigation proposal is included to raise the panel boards to a height of eight feet and to build five 5'x20' platforms to access the panel boards.

Documentation Requirements

☐ No Documentation Required **(Review Concluded)**

☐ **(Short version)** All consultation and agreements implemented to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act, and Executive Orders 11988, 11990 and 12898 are completed and no other laws apply. **(Review Concluded)**

☒ **(Long version)** All applicable laws and executive orders were reviewed. Additional information for compliance is attached to this REC.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination

☐ ~~Statutorily excluded from NEPA review. **(Review Concluded)**~~
☐ Programmatic Categorical Exclusion - Category **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Categorical Exclusion - Category
  ☐ No Extraordinary Circumstances exist.
    Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
  ☐ Extraordinary Circumstances exist (See Section IV).
    ☐ Extraordinary Circumstances mitigated. (See Section IV comments)
      Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Environmental Assessment
☐ Supplemental Environmental Assessment (Reference EA or PEA in comments)
☒ Environmental Impact Statement

Comments: Although this project would have qualified as a CATEX (xv) and (xvi) under 44 CFR part 10.8 (d)(2), this project meets the definition of critical infrastructure (Government and Court Administration Buildings) under the Alternative Arrangements for NEPA compliance. This project has conditions and requires mitigation under the other EHP laws which are listed under the NEPA level of environmental review in the project worksheet. Any changes to this approved scope of work will require submission to, and evaluation and approval by, the state and FEMA prior to initiation of any work, for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The applicant is required to obtain and comply with all local, state and federal permits and requirements. Non-compliance with the requirements noted above may jeopardize the receipt of federal funding.

Reviewer and Approvals

☐ Project is Non-Compliant (See attached documentation justifying selection).

FEMA Environmental Reviewer.
Name: Perry J. Boudreaux, Environmental Specialist

Signature _____. Date 10/3/2006.

FEMA Regional Environmental Officer or delegated approving official.
Name: Howard R. Bush, ELO

Signature _____. Date 10/3/2006.

I. Compliance Review for Environmental Laws (other than NEPA)

A. National Historic Preservation Act

☒ Not type of activity with potential to affect historic properties. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Applicable executed Programmatic Agreement _____ Otherwise, conduct standard Section 106 review.
☐ Activity meets Programmatic Allowance # _____
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

☒ No historic properties that are listed or 45/50 years or older in project area. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Building or structure listed or 45/50 years or older in project area and activity not exempt from review.
☐ Determination of No Historic Properties Affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Determination of Historic Properties Affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
☐ ~~Property a National Historic Landmark and National Park Service was provided early notification~~ during the consultation process. If not, explain in comments
☐ No Adverse Effect Determination (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file).
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Adverse Effect Determination (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
☐ Resolution of Adverse Effect completed. (MOA on file)
Are project conditions required ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

☒ Project affects only previously disturbed ground. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project affects undisturbed ground.
☐ Project area has no potential for presence of archeological resources
☐ Determination of no historic properties affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence or consultation on file). **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project area has potential for presence of archeological resources
☐ Determination of no historic properties affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Determination of historic properties affected
☐ NR eligible resources not present (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file).
Are project conditions required ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ NR eligible resources present in project area. (FEMA finding/ SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
☐ No Adverse Effect Determination. (FEMA finding/ SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**

☐ Adverse Effect Determination. (FEMA finding/ SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
☐ Resolution of Adverse Effect completed. (MOA on file)
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No
(Review Concluded)

Comments: Per NEMIS Special Considerations the facility is 15 years old.
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

B. Endangered Species Act

☒ No listed species and/or designated critical habitat present in areas affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Listed species and/or designated critical habitat present in the areas affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action.
☐ No effect to species or designated critical habitat. (See comments for justification)
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ May affect, but not likely to adversely affect species or designated critical habitat (FEMA determination/USFWS/NMFS concurrence on file) **(Review Concluded)**
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Likely to adversely affect species or designated critical habitat
☐ Formal consultation concluded. (Biological Assessment and Biological Opinion on file)
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: None

C. Coastal Barrier Resources Act

☒ Project is not on or connected to CBRA Unit or Otherwise Protected Area **(Review Concluded)**.
☐ Project is on or connected to CBRA Unit or Otherwise Protected Area. (FEMA determination/USFWS consultation on file)
☐ Proposed action an exception under Section 3505.a.6? **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Proposed action not excepted under Section 3505.a.6.
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: None
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

D. Clean Water Act

☒ Project would not affect any waters of the U.S. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project would affect waters, including wetlands, of the U.S.
☐ Project exempted as in kind replacement or other exemption. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project requires Section 404/401/or Section 9/10 (Rivers and Harbors Act) permit, including qualification under Nationwide Permits.
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project is not in or adjacent to any waterways of the US.
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

E. Coastal Zone Management Act

☐ Project is not located in a coastal zone area and does not affect a coastal zone area **(Review concluded)**
☒ Project is located in a coastal zone area and/or affects the coastal zone
☒ State administering agency does not require consistency review. **(Review Concluded)**.
☐ State administering agency requires consistency review.
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. La Department of Natural Resources 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 or other authorization from DNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting La DNR at 1-800-267-4019.
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

F. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

☒ Project does not affect, control, or modify a waterway/body of water. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project affects, controls or modifies a waterway/body of water.
☐ Coordination with USFWS conducted
☐ No Recommendations offered by USFWS. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Recommendations provided by USFWS.
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project is not in or adjacent to any waterways of the US.
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

G. Clean Air Act

☒ Project will not result in permanent air emissions. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project is located in an attainment area. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project is located in a non-attainment area.
☐ Coordination required with applicable state administering agency.
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project will not result in permanent air emissions.
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

H. Farmland Protection Policy Act

☒ Project does not affect designated prime or unique farmland. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project causes unnecessary or irreversible conversion of designated prime or unique farmland.
☐ Coordination with Natural Resource Conservation Commission required.
☐ Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, Form AD-1006, completed.
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments. None
Correspondence/Consultation/References.

I. Migratory Bird Treaty Act

☐ Project not located within a flyway zone. **(Review Concluded)**
☒ Project located within a flyway zone.
☒ Project does not have potential to take migratory birds. **(Review Concluded)**
Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☒ No **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project has potential to take migratory birds.
☐ Contact made with USFWS
Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: See letter from Don Fairley to Mr. Russ Watson with USF&WS, dated 09/14/2005. Specifically, FEMA has determined that restoration projects funded with federal resources will not have adverse impacts on migratory birds or other fish and wildlife reserves. These determinations are based on the understanding that the conditions outlined in the Louisiana Endangered Species Summary are met.
Correspondence/Consultation/References: http://pacificflyway.gov/Documents/Mississippi_map.pdf.

J. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

☒ Project not located in or near Essential Fish Habitat. **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project located in or near Essential Fish Habitat.
- ☐ Project does not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat. **(Review Concluded)**
  Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
- ☐ Project adversely affects Essential Fish Habitat (FEMA determination/USFWS/NMFS concurrence on file)
  - ☐ NOAA Fisheries provided no recommendation(s) **(Review Concluded).**
    Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
  - ☐ NOAA Fisheries provided recommendation(s)
    - ☐ Written reply to NOAA Fisheries recommendations completed.
      Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: None
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

K. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

☒ Project is not along and does not affect Wild or Scenic River (WSR) - **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Project is along or affects WSR
- ☐ Project adversely affects WSR as determined by NPS/USFS. **FEMA cannot fund the action**. (NPS/USFS/USFWS/BLM consultation on file) **(Review Concluded)**
- ☐ Project does not adversely affect WSR. (NPS/USFS/USFWS/BLM consultation on file)
  Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: None
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

L. Other Relevant Laws and Environmental Regulations

II. Compliance Review for Executive Orders

A. E.O. 11988 - Floodplains

☐ No Effect on Floodplains/Flood levels and project outside Floodplain - **(Review Concluded)**
☒ Located in Floodplain or Effects on Floodplains/Flood levels
- ☐ No adverse effect on floodplain and not adversely affected by the floodplain. **(Review Concluded).**
  Are project conditions required? ☐ Yes (see section V) ☐ No **(Review Concluded)**
- ☐ Beneficial Effect on Floodplain Occupancy/Values **(Review Concluded).**
- ☒ Possible adverse effects associated with investment in floodplain, occupancy or modification of floodplain environment
  - ☒ 8 Step Process Complete - documentation on file
    Are project conditions required? ☒ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments 08/14/06- The City of New Orleans / Orleans Parish is enrolled in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) as of 08-03-70, as determined per Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel number 2252030160e, dated 03-01-84. Facility is located within an "A4" zone, area of 100-yr flooding, base flood elevations and flood hazard factors. The project is the replacement of equipment and components, as per 44 CFR 9.11, mitigation or minimization standards must be applied. Where possible, building contents, materials, and equipment (mechanical or electrical) must be elevated to or above advisory base flood elevations. In compliance with EO 11988, an 8-step process was completed and is attached. Per 44 CFR 9.12, applicant must publish a final public notice 15 days prior to the start of construction activities. Final public notice is to be forwarded to the LAGOHS/OFP and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files. A Cramer FPM Specialist.
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

B. E.O. 11990 - Wetlands

☒ No Effects on Wetland(s) and project located outside Wetland(s) - **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Located in Wetland or effects Wetland(s)
- ☐ Beneficial Effect on Wetland - **(Review Concluded)**
- ☐ Possible adverse effect associated with constructing in or near wetland
  - ☐ Review completed as part of floodplain review
  - ☐ 8 Step Process Complete - documentation on file
  - Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: None
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

C. E.O. 12898 - Environmental Justice For Low Income and Minority Populations

☒ No Low income or minority population in, near or affected by the project - **(Review Concluded)**
☐ Low income or minority population in or near project area
- ☐ No disproportionately high and adverse impact on low income or minority population- **(Review Concluded)**
- ☐ Disproportionately high or adverse effects on low income or minority population
  - Are project conditions required? ☐ YES (see section V) ☐ NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: None
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

III. Other Environmental Issues

Identify other potential environmental concerns in the comment box not clearly falling under a law or executive order (see environmental concerns scoping checklist for guidance).

Comments: None
Correspondence/Consultation/References:

IV. Extraordinary Circumstances

Based on the review of compliance with other environmental laws and Executive Orders, and in consideration of other environmental factors, review the project for extraordinary circumstances.

* A "Yes" under any circumstance may require an Environmental Assessment (EA) with the exception of (ii) which should be applied in conjunction with controversy on an environmental issue. If the circumstance can be mitigated, please explain in comments. If no, leave blank.

Yes

☐ (i) Greater scope or size than normally experienced for a particular category of action
☐ (ii) Actions with a high level of public controversy
☐ (iii) Potential for degradation, even though slight, of already existing poor environmental conditions;
☐ (iv) Employment of unproven technology with potential adverse effects or actions involving unique or unknown environmental risks;
☐ (v) Presence of endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat, or archaeological, cultural, historical or other protected resources;
☐ (vi) Presence of hazardous or toxic substances at levels which exceed Federal, state or local regulations or standards requiring action or attention;
☐ (vii) Actions with the potential to affect special status areas adversely or other critical resources such as wetlands, coastal zones, wildlife refuge and wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers;
☐ (viii) Potential for adverse effects on health or safety; and

☐ (ix) Potential to violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.

☐ (x) Potential for significant cumulative impact when the proposed action is combined with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions, even though the impacts of the proposed action may not be significant by themselves.

Comments: None

V. Environmental Review Project Conditions

Project Conditions:

1. Per 44 CFR 9.11, mitigation or minimization standards must be applied. Where possible, building contents, materials, and equipment (mechanical or electrical) must be elevated to or above advisory base flood elevations. Per 44 CFR 9.12, applicant must publish a final public notice 15 days prior to the start of construction activities. Final public notice is to be forwarded to the LAGOHS/OEP and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.

2. Unusable equipment, debris and material shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location. In the event significant items (or evidence thereof) are discovered during implementation of the project applicant shall handle, manage, and dispose of petroleum products, hazardous materials and/or toxic waste in accordance to the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.

3. Mercury containing devices - this project potentially involves the disposal of metallic mercury containing electronic devices. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that these devices are recovered, recycled, reused or sequestered in accordance with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) "Declaration of Emergency; Mercury-containing Devices and Electronic Equipment as Universal Waste" letter dated October 3, 2005.

Monitoring Requirements: None

PROJECT WORKSHEET REPORT

DECLARATION NO. FEMA-LA - DR1603
FIPS NO. 071-UXQ34-00
APPLICANT NAME REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY
SUBDIVISION
FEMA PW # 10744 **VSN** 0 **REF#** E-19A

PREPARED DATE 04/27/2006
REPORT DATE 10/03/2006 08:46
INF TYPE ○ INF ● NON-INF ○ REC

CATEGORY E. Public Buildings **COUNTY** ORLEANS **FUNDING OPTION** **COST SHARE** 0.9
STD PROJECT NO. 599 **PROJECT TITLE** CANAL ELECTRICAL REPAIRS-RANDOLPH
PROJECTED CMPLTN DT 02/28/2007 **ACTUAL CMPLTN DT** **WORK COMPLETE AS OF** 04/27/2006 : 0 %
ELIGIBILITY Yes **AMOUNT ELIG** $686,610.02 **FEDERAL SHARE** $617,949.02 **PRIORITY** Normal
BEGIN DESIGN DT **BEGIN CONSTR DT**
END DESIGN DT **END CONSTR DT**
PREPARER JEFFERY W AMERING
ROLE PO **DATA SOURCE** Paper
STATE
DATE OBLGTD **PACKAGE DATE**
PACKAGE ID

PW REVIEWER DATA

	REVIEWER NAME	DATE
INITIAL REVIEW	BACCUS,GARRETT	08/14/2006
FINAL REVIEW		

MT PROP ● Yes ○ No **VALIDATED** ● Yes ○ No
PNP QUESTIONS ○ Yes ● No **STATE RVWD** ○ Yes ○ No
ATTACH ○ Yes ● No

Does the Scope of Work change the pre-disaster conditions at the site?	● Yes	○ No	○ Unsure
Special Considerations issues included?	● Yes	○ No	○ Unsure
Is there insurance coverage on this facility?	● Yes	○ No	○ Unsure
Hazard Mitigation proposal included?	● Yes	○ No	○ Unsure