



FEMA

July 24, 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, Port Sulphur High School Special Education Storage Office, Plaquemines Parish School Board; PW#: 11172, DR-1603-LA; PA ID: 075-U5R52-00]

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Public Assistance project for Port Sulphur High School Special Education Storage Office at 118 School Road, Port Sulphur, LA 70083, (29.4758166N, 89.6954W), 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 categorical exclusion in accordance with 44 CFR Part 10.8(d)(2)(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 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:

1) This project is located in 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 authorization from DNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting la dnr at 1-800-267-4019.

2) Area is in 100-year flooding, base flood elevation and flood hazard factors as determined. 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 Elevation (ABFE).

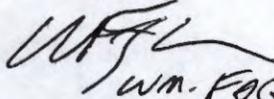
3) FEMA, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), has determined the structure associated with the proposed demolition is not listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (see attached correspondence dated 11/10/2005) and finds that this scope of work will have no effect on standing historic properties. -

L. J. 8-1-06

4) Scope of work indicates ground disturbing activities associated with the demolition and rebuild of the structure within its pre-disaster footprint. Upon consultation of SHPO data, there are no known archaeological sites within .5 miles of the project area. If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) or human remains are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their Public Assistance (PA) contacts FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA historic preservation staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA historic preservation staff have completed consultation with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In addition, if unmarked graves are present, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Unmarked Burial Sites Board (call the Louisiana Division of Archeology at 225-342-8170) within seventy-two hours of the discovery. If this scope of work and/or the footprint/location of the new building changes, this project will need to be resubmitted for further section 106 review prior to ground disturbing activities taking place outside of the pre-disaster footprint of the building

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,


Wm. FOGAN for:
Donald R. Fairley,
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA

Enclosures: Project Worksheet

Cc: Oliver Mack, FEMA DPAO for Grants