

Record of Environmental Consideration

REVISED FOR FEMA ENVIRONMENTAL -- LOUISIANA -- April 2007

See 44 Code of Federal Regulation Part 10

Project Name/Number: Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School
Demolition of Existing School Campus Buildings &
Construct of New Elementary School Campus Buildings
FIPS#: 033-UA9M2-00/ **AI No. 1475**

Applicant Name: Recovery School District

Project Locations: Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School - Location: 29.96923, -90.07824
2300 Dumaine Street, New Orleans, LA 70119

Project Description:

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath caused wind and flood damages to facilities at the Recovery School District Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School at 2300 Dumaine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. The Orleans Parish School Board and the Recovery School District prepared a Schools Facilities Master Plan for Orleans Parish for renovations and rebuilding of schools following Katrina. The Applicant plans to demolish the existing buildings, drives, and parking areas associated with the school campus and to construct a new school to accommodate a total of 600 elementary level students. The new school is planned to be a 95,000 square foot, 3-story facility elevated to the applicable base flood elevation. The school will house classrooms, science labs, a library/media center and computer labs, and arts and music facilities with flexible performance space. The facility will also feature a commercial kitchen and cafeteria, a gymnasium, and a stage as well as office space for administrative and student support services.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination

- Statutorily excluded from NEPA review (**Review Concluded**)
- Programmatic Categorical Exclusion - Category (**Review Concluded**)
- Categorical Exclusion - Category XV
 - 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**)
- Alternative Arrangements
 - Public Involvement Plan on file (see comments below)
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: Based on documentation provided by the sub-applicant, FEMA's Environmental / Historic Preservation Section and Alternatives Arrangement team determined that the Recovery School District and the Orleans Parish School Board provided sufficient documentation to demonstrate a satisfactory public involvement process for rebuilding schools in Orleans Parish, LA. Any changes to the scope of work will require re-submission through the state to FEMA and requires re-evaluation for compliance with national environmental policies. The applicant is responsible for obtaining and complying with all local, state and federal permits. Non-compliance with this requirement may jeopardize receipt of federal funds.

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

Reviewer and Approvals

FEMA Environmental Reviewer:

Name: Kelly E. Rowe, Environmental Specialist, FEMA LRO

Signature *Kelly Rowe* Date 6-6-11

FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer or Delegated Approving Official:

Name: Adam Borden, Environmental Team Lead, FEMA LRO

Signature *for RB Borden* Date 6-7-11

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

A. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

- Not type of activity with potential to affect historic structures or archaeological resources (**Review Concluded**)
- Applicable executed Programmatic Agreement. Activity meets Programmatic Allowance (date of agreement and allowance number in comments) - **Review Concluded**
- Applicable executed Programmatic Agreement (date in comments). See project review below for historic structures and archaeological resources.
- Other Programmatic Agreement dated _____ applies

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

- No historic properties that are listed or 50 years or older in project area. (**Review Concluded**)
- Building or structure 50 years or older or listed on the National Register in the 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 or grounds associated with a historic structure
 - Project area has no potential for presence of archeological resources
 - Determination of no historic properties affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence 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: A review of the demolition of the Phillis Wheatley Elementary School (undertaking) was conducted in accordance with FEMA's Secondary Programmatic Agreement Regarding Implementation of School Facilities Master Plan for Orleans Parish, dated August 17, 2009 (RSD/OPSB 2PA). FEMA determined that the Phillis Wheatley Elementary School is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A and C in a letter dated June 30, 2008 and the SHPO concurred July 21, 2008. In accordance with 36 CFR§ 800.5, FEMA has determined the demolition of these structures will adversely affect historic properties. The RSD/OPSB 2PA requires FEMA to consult under 36 CFR §800.6 to develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the adverse effects of this Undertaking. The MOA for this undertaking was executed on February 18, 2011. To remain in compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA the stipulations detailed within the MOA and summarized in the conditions section of the REC, must be carried out. FEMA has determined that no archaeological resources are affected by the proposed undertaking. SHPO concurrence with this determination was received, dated October 27, 2010.

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: Project is located in an urban or previously developed area. Neither listed species nor their habitat occur in or near this site, thus FEMA finds there will be no effect to threatened or endangered species.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: USFWS emergency consultation provisions determined in letters dated September 15, 2005 for Katrina.

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: Project is not within a CBRA zone.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Coastal Barrier Resource System Maps referenced June 2, 2011.

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 of Clean Water Act or Section 9/10 of Rivers and Harbors Act permit, including qualification under Nationwide Permits.
Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**
- Project would affect waters of the U.S. by discharging to a surface water body.

Comments: No jurisdictional waters of the U.S., including wetlands, occur in or near the project area.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: USFWS National Wetlands Inventory map (<http://www.fws.gov/nwi/>) queried on June 2, 2011.

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. Projects within the coastal zone may require a coastal use permit or other authorization from LADNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting LA DNR at 1-225-342-9232.
Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Coastal Zone maps queried June 2, 2011.

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 scope does not include impoundment, diversion, control, or other modification of waters of any stream or body of water.
Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Map (<http://www.lamap.doa.louisiana.gov/>) queried June 2, 2011

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: The proposed project includes activities that would produce a minor, temporary, and localized impact on air quality from vehicle emissions and fugitive dust particles. No long-term air quality impact is anticipated.
Correspondence/Consultation/References: EPA Region 6 Non-attainment Map

H. Farmland Protection Policy Act

- Project will not affect undisturbed ground. **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project has a zoning classification that is other than agricultural or is in an urbanized area. **(Review Concluded)**
 - 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 Resources Conservation Service required.
 - Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, Form AD-1006, completed.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: The site is located within an existing urban and developed area and FPPA is precluded.
Correspondence/Consultation/References: Kelly E. Rowe, Environmental Specialist

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: The site is an existing disturbed area with little value to migratory birds and would not be included in the USFWS migratory bird management program.
Correspondence/Consultation/References: USFWS guidance letter dated September 27, 2005.

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: Project is not located in or near any surface waters with the potential to affect EFH species.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Map (<http://www.lamap.doa.louisiana.gov/>) referenced June 2, 2011.

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: Project is not along and does not affect Wild or Scenic River (WSR).

Correspondence/Consultation/References: National Wild and Scenic Rivers <http://www.nps.gov/rivers/wildriverslist.html>

L. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

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 (such as asbestos and lead based paint) and/or toxic waste in accordance to the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.

M. Other Relevant Laws and Environmental Regulations

Formosan Termite Initiative Act

In accordance with the Formosan Termite Initiative Act, (LA R.S. 3:3391.1 thru 3391.13) the Louisiana Parish of Orleans is under quarantine. The movement of wood or cellulose material, temporary housing or architectural components (e.g. beams, doors and other wood salvaged from a structure) may not leave the quarantined parishes without written authorization from the Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and forestry or his designee(s).

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**)
 - A Final Public Notice is required

Comments: As of the release date of preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs), unobligated FEMA Public Assistance grants for new construction and substantial improvements are to be built in accordance with a minimum base flood elevation (BFE) as established by the preliminary DFIRM. Orleans Parish DFIRMs were issued November 2008. This site is shown on DFIRM Panel 22071C2030F, in Zone AE (EL 0) NAVD. Local ordinances based on ABFE maps may require a more stringent elevation requirement. New construction must be compliant with current codes and standards. The applicant is required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator regarding floodplain permit(s) prior to the start of any activities. In compliance with Executive Order 11988, an 8-step process, showing considered alternatives, was completed and is attached or on file. As per 44 CFR 9.11 (d) (9), mitigation or minimization standards must be applied where possible. The replacement of building contents, materials and equipment should be, where possible, wet or dry-proofed, elevated, or relocated to or above the community established base flood elevation. Hazardous materials need to be elevated above the 0.2 % annual chance (500-year) flood elevation. A cumulative final public notice was published 10/26/07 - 11/02/07 and is attached or on file.

B. E.O. 11990 - Wetlands

- No Effects on Wetland(s) and/or 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: U.S. FWS NWI map accessed on-line June 2, 2011.

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

- Project scope of work has no potential to adversely impact any population **(Review Concluded)**
 No Low income or minority population in, near or affected by the project based on information gathered from <http://factfinder.census.gov>. **(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: The percent populations of 70119 are: 23.3% White, 72.1% African-American, 5.6% Hispanic. The median household income in 1999 was \$ 21,297 and 29.2 % of families are below poverty level.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Kelly E. Rowe, Environmental Specialist

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/Reference:

IV. Extraordinary Circumstances

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:

V. Environmental Review Project Conditions

Project Conditions:

The following conditions apply as a condition of FEMA funding reimbursement:

1. 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 at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA Historic Preservation (HP) staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA HP completes consultation with the 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 Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two hours of the discovery. Failure to comply with these stipulations may jeopardize receipt of FEMA funding.
2. RSD has initiated the transfer of all or portions of the Wheatley Main Classroom Building to a third party. RSD has fulfilled its responsibility to update FEMA of the status of the transfer in writing on or before January 31, 2011 and March 31, 2011.
3. FEMA will ensure educational materials regarding the Phillis Wheatley School are developed and made available to RSD. RSD shall make the educational materials available for public distribution.
4. FEMA will determine if it is feasible to work with Southeastern Louisiana University (SLU) to develop a digital or physical scale model of the Phillis Wheatley School for display at the new school to be constructed on the site of the Wheatley School or some other suitable location as a part of this Stipulation. However, after initial discussions with SLU, FEMA decided to pursue partnering with Students for Historic Preservation (SHiP) at LSU School of Art + Design to produce a wooden model.
5. RSD will develop, fabricate, and install an interpretive exhibit describing the history of the Orleans Parish School Board's schools constructed in the 1950s at the George Washington Carver Campus, 3059 Higgins Blvd., New Orleans. FEMA, in cooperation with RSD, will invite the Signatories, Invited Signatories, and Concurring Parties to participate in a Working Group to develop the interpretive display at Carver School.
6. RSD has begun its public design review process and notified the consulting parties of the time and location of RSD's public meetings to discuss the design of the new school on the Wheatley School site. RSD will continue to send e-mail updates regarding public meetings and other opportunities to comment on the design of the new school as soon as this information is publicly available, and at least 7-days prior to a meeting.
7. RSD will address the recommendations identified by FEMA in consultation with SHPO during the development of the schematic designs for the new construction. RSD will provide FEMA with two (2) copies of the schematic

designs for the site plan and the exterior elevations, and FEMA will assess the potential effects of the schematic designs on the Esplanade Ridge Historic District and determine if review of the undertaking will be completed following the process outlined in Stipulation VIII.C or Stipulation IX. of the 2PA.

8. If, in the course of the Undertaking, archaeological deposits are uncovered or unforeseen effects occur, RSD shall ensure that its contractor immediately stops work in the general vicinity of the discovery or unforeseen effect and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds and/or to avoid or minimize further unforeseen effects. RSD shall ensure that the archaeological findings are secured and access to the area of the discovery is restricted.
9. RSD will notify FEMA and GOHSEP of discoveries or unforeseen effects as soon as practicable. FEMA will notify and consult with the SHPO and others, as appropriate, to determine if further steps to evaluate the National Register eligibility and treatment of the discovery or unforeseen effect is necessary.
10. If FEMA and the SHPO and others, as appropriate, determine that further steps are necessary to evaluate or treat the unforeseen effect or the newly discovered property and it does not contain human remains, FEMA shall work with SHPO, RSD, GOHSEP, and others, as appropriate, to agree on timeframes and determine ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects.
11. 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 (such as asbestos and lead based paint) and/or toxic waste in accordance to the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.
12. In accordance with the Formosan Termite Initiative Act, (LA R.S. 3:3391.1 thru 3391.13) the Louisiana Parish of Orleans- is under quarantine. The movement of wood or cellulose material, temporary housing or architectural components (e.g. beams, doors and other wood salvaged from a structure) may not leave the quarantined parishes without written authorization from the Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and forestry or his designee(s).
13. Per Clean Air Act National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutant Regulations and Louisiana Administrative Code 33:iii 5151, demolition activities related to possible asbestos-containing materials (PACM) must be inspected for ACM/PACM where it is safe to do so. ACM/PACM must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations and disposed of at approved facilities that accept ACM. Demolition activity notification must be sent to the LDEQ before work begins.
14. This project involves the demolition of a public structure that may contain surfaces coated with lead-based paint (LBP). The applicant is responsible complying with all local, state, and federal laws and ensuring that project activities are coordinated with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for abatement activities.

8-STEP PROCESS CHECKLIST

New/Rebuilt Elementary School – At Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School Campus Orleans Parish

Date: 6/2/2011
Prepared by: Kelly E. Rowe, CFM, Environmental/Floodplain Specialist, FEMA EHP
Project Title: New Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School
Location: Orleans Parish, Louisiana
(Latitude: 29.96923; Longitude: -90.07824)

FEMA-1603-DR-LA

EO 11988-FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT EO 11990-WETLAND PROTECTION

STEP 1 Determine whether the proposed action is located in a wetland and/or the 100-year floodplain (500-year floodplain for critical actions [44 CFR 9.4]), or whether it has the potential to affect or be affected by a floodplain or a wetland (see 44 CFR 9.7).

- The specific project sites are located in a floodplain as mapped on Preliminary DFIRM No. 22071C0230F, dated November 13, 2008, within Zone AE (EL 0); special flood hazard area inundated by 100-year flood; base flood elevations (BFE) determined.
- The project is located in a wetland as identified by:

STEP 2 Notify the public at the earliest possible time of the intent to carry out an action in a floodplain or wetland, and involve the affected and interested public in the decision making process (see 44 CFR 9.8).

- Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.
- Applicable - Notice will be or has been provided by:

A cumulative Initial Public Notice was published statewide
October 21st – November 2nd, 2008.

STEP 3 **Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating the proposed action in a floodplain or wetland (including alternative sites, actions and the "no action" option) [see 44 CFR 9.9]. If a practicable alternative exists outside the floodplain or wetland, FEMA must locate the action at the alternative site.**

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Alternatives identified in the EA Document or described below:

Alternative 1: No action would leave the demolished school campus with inadequate facilities to meet the educational needs of the students in the community near the school site.

Alternative 2: Relocating these facilities outside the 100-year flood event elevation. The area is predominantly composed of special flood hazard areas. The students and community will likely not commute to facilities outside the 100-year flood event area due to the significant distances involved in the commute.

Alternative 3: Rebuilding these school facilities above or floodproofed for the 100-year flood event elevation.

STEP 4 **Identify the full range or potential direct or indirect impacts associated with the occupancy or modification of floodplains and wetlands, and the potential direct and indirect support of floodplain and wetland development, that could result from the proposed action (see 44 CFR 9.10).**

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Alternatives identified in the EA Document or described below:

The project will shift services to another facility within the floodplain and should not have an adverse affect upon the floodplain or wetlands.

STEP 5 **Minimize the potential adverse impacts and support to or within floodplains and wetlands to be identified under step # 4, restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains, and preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values served by wetlands (see 44 CFR 9.11).**

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Mitigation measures identified in the EA Document or described below:

In compliance with 44 CFR 9.11, mitigation and minimization standards will be considered and applied, where possible.

STEP 6 **Reevaluate the proposed action to determine first, if it is still practicable in light of its exposure to flood hazards, the extent to which it will aggravate the hazards to others, and it's potential to disrupt floodplain and wetland values; and second, if alternatives preliminarily rejected at step # 3 are practicable in light of the information gained in steps # 4 and # 5. FEMA shall not act in a floodplain or wetland unless it is the only practicable location (see 44 CFR 9.9).**

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Action proposed is located in the only practicable location, as described below:

The most practicable alternative is to rebuild the facilities at the former location and function as before.

Applicable - Action proposed is not located in the only practicable location. Describe below:

STEP 7 **Prepare and provide the public with a finding and public explanation of any final decision that the floodplain or wetland is the only practicable alternative (see 44 CFR 9.12).**

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Finding is or will be prepared as described below:

A Cumulative Public Notice was published on October 27-31, 2008.

STEP 8 **Review the implementation and post-implementation phases of the proposed action to ensure that the requirements of the order are fully implemented. Oversight responsibility shall be integrated into existing processes.**

Not applicable - Project is not located in a floodplain or in a wetland.

Applicable - Approval conditioned on review of implementation and post-implementation phases to ensure compliance of the order(s).