

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT PROPOSED 310-FOOT COMMUNICATIONS TOWER BOONE COUNTY, NEBRASKA

The Boone County Emergency Management Agency has applied through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency for funding under FEMA's Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) to construct a self-supporting 310-foot above ground level (AGL) communications tower and associated facilities at the Boone County Fairgrounds on the outskirts southwest of the community of Albion, Boone County, Nebraska. The objective of the HSGP is to build and sustain national preparedness capabilities. The proposed tower would improve public safety and interoperable communications among first responders during an emergency event.

The attached Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared by FEMA and the applicant in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508) to implement NEPA, Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023-01, Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act, and FEMA NEPA implementing regulations at 44 CFR Part 10.

The applicant initiated a public involvement process through a Public Notice and consultation with other Federal and state agencies and interested Tribes.

The proposed project as described in the EA was evaluated for any potential significant adverse impacts to historic preservation considerations, biological and species impacts including migratory birds, and floodplain and wetland impacts. The project was coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nebraska State Historical Society, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, and others.

The applicant is responsible for obtaining and complying with all required local, State and Federal permits and approvals, including any required by the FCC and the Federal Aviation Administration.

FINDING

Based upon the EA and in accordance with Presidential Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice), 11988 (Floodplain Management), and 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), FEMA has determined that the proposed action would not have any significant adverse impacts on the human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared and the proposed project may proceed.

Approved

Kenneth G. Sessa
Environmental Officer
FEMA Region VII

Date