

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice of Availability of the Draft Site Specific Environmental Assessment for the Abbeville General Hospital Safe Room Project
Vermilion Parish, Louisiana
HMGP-DR-1786-LA, Project #160

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Vermilion Parish has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. Under HMGP, FEMA provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures that reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

FEMA proposes to provide funding to the Parish for a new building addition for a dual-use safe room at Abbeville General Hospital located at 118 North Hospital Drive, Abbeville, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide near-absolute life safety protection for critical/essential hospital services personnel and patients that for specific reasons cannot be transported to other facilities during a hurricane.

A Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Hazard Mitigation Safe Room Construction was prepared and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued in June 2, 2011, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing regulations of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), the National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of FEMA (44 CFR Parts 9 and 10). FEMA's environmental planning and historic preservation review reveals that all environmental areas of concern are appropriately accounted for in the PEA with the exception of floodplain impacts. A Tiered Site-Specific Environmental Assessments (SEA) has been prepared in accordance with the June 2011 PEA and FEMA's Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, to focus on Executive Order (EO) 11988 requirements and floodplain impacts of the proposed safe room project. The SEA evaluates the (1) No Action and (2) the proposed action described above.

The Draft SEA is available for comment and can be viewed at the Vermillion (Abbeville) Hospital, Executive Offices, 118 N. Hospital Drive, Abbeville, LA 70510, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. between September 14-28, 2016. An electronic version of the draft SEA can be requested from Dorothy Cook, FEMA Region 6, at dorothy.cook@fema.dhs.gov or viewed on FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/122457>.

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date. Written comments on the draft SEA can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to Dorothy Cook, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 6, 800 N Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209, Fax: 940-297-0152; dorothy.cook@fema.dhs.gov. If no substantive comments are received, the draft SEA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.