

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
AMENDMENT LETTER TO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE  
Groom Road Emergency Temporary Housing Site  
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a letter of amendment to the Environmental Assessment (EA) and associated FONSI dated September 17, 2005 prepared for the Groom Road Temporary Housing Site. The proposed emergency temporary group Manufactured Housing Unit (MHU) site located in Baker, Louisiana, East Baton Rouge Parish was used to support the FEMA-1603-DR-LA (Hurricane Katrina) Temporary Housing Mission. The site may once more provide suitable temporary housing opportunities for individuals and families displaced due to severe flooding. A major disaster declaration was signed by the President on August 14, 2016, for severe storms and flooding (FEMA-4277-DR-LA).

The proposed action may include developing an approximately 30-acre site for approximately 99 Manufactured Housing Units (MHUs), located south of the Groom Road and Hovey Avenue intersection in Baker, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. Activities may include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, road construction, the placement of utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer), and the transport and installation of manufactured homes to the site. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500 – 1508), FEMA’s Instruction 108-1-1 for implementing NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and 44 CFR Part 9, a letter of amendment was written to evaluate the existing site conditions and assess potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment to determine whether or not the existing EA and associated FONSI represents current environmental conditions. FEMA finds that the EA and associated FONSI signed September 17, 2005 are applicable to this action. In order to meet the urgent need of flood survivors to find temporary housing, FEMA has conducted an expedited environmental review process to identify and address environmental issues.

Due to the emergency nature of this action, the public comment period will be brief; the three-day comment period will end on October 24, 2016. Written comments on the letter of amendment can be faxed to FEMA’s Joint Field Office in Baton Rouge at (225) 382-1560; or sent via email to [FEMA-R6-EHP@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R6-EHP@fema.dhs.gov). When responding by email, enter the project name, “**Temporary Housing –Groom Road Group Site**” in the subject field. Verbal comments will be accepted at (225) 382-1500 and TTY for hearing or speech-impaired at (866) 863-9057; between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The letter of amendment can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA’s website at <https://www.fema.gov/library>. The letter of amendment is also available for public review at the East Baton Rouge Parish Library (Baker Branch) in Baker, Louisiana 70714. The East Baton Rouge Parish Library (Baker Branch) facility hours are Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday to Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. If no substantive comments are received, the original EA and FONSI will become the final NEPA clearance for this site and no further public notices will be circulated.

***All other questions regarding disaster assistance or the availability of emergency housing should be directed to FEMA’s Tele-Registration line at 1-800-621-3362.***