

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
RELOCATION OF DIAMONDHEAD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
DIAMONDHEAD, HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FEMA-1604-DR-MS

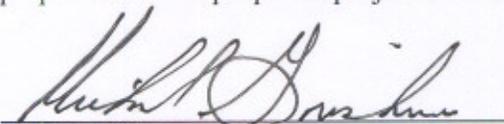
Diamondhead Water and Sewer District has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance with a flood mitigation project for the Diamondhead Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Hancock County, Mississippi. The WWTP was devastated by storm surges associated with Hurricane Katrina in 2005. FEMA proposes to provide assistance for this project through the Public Assistance Program (PA) under Presidential Disaster Declaration FEMA-1604-DR-MS.

In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for FEMA, Subpart B, Agency Implementing Procedures, Part 10.9, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). The purpose of the EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the relocation project, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). In the EA process, FEMA considered two alternatives, the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action Alternative.

The Proposed Action Alternative would relocate the WWTP to a 13-acre site located north of Interstate 10 and west of Park Ten Drive. The construction of the new WWTP would remove the facility from the floodplain and would reduce repair costs associated with recurrent flooding. The proposed project would include rerouting five existing force mains to the new facility and construction of District offices and a maintenance facility at the new site.

The attached EA has been prepared in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 CFR Part 10 (Environmental Considerations) and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice) and all other relevant Federal, state, and local laws.

Based on the findings of the attached EA, coordination with the appropriate agencies, and adherence to the project conditions set forth in the EA, FEMA has determined that the proposed project qualifies as a major Federal action that will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared and the proposed project as described in the attached EA may proceed.



Date: 01-16-2007

Michael Grisham
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FEMA-1604-DR-MS
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