

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
LOUISIANA FACILITIES PLANNING AND CONTROL
NEW ORLEANS MENTAL HEALTH CENTER IMPROVEMENTS
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

The Department of Homeland Security and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) have established Alternative Arrangements (AA) to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and CEQ regulations for implementing the procedural requirements of NEPA, for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants to reconstruct critical infrastructure in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area (Federal Register, Vol. 71, No. 56, p. 14712, March 23, 2006).

Interested parties are hereby notified that FEMA has determined that the alternate project for the New Orleans Mental Health Center qualifies for expedited NEPA review under the AA guidelines. The State of Louisiana, Facilities Planning and Control (applicant), has prepared and submitted an application to FEMA for funding under FEMA's Public Assistance Program being administered in response to FEMA-1603-DR-LA. The Presidential Disaster Declaration, for this event was signed on August 29, 2005.

On August 29, 2005, the New Orleans Mental Health Center, located at 3100 General DeGaulle Dr., in Algiers received extensive damage from wind and rain associated with Hurricane Katrina. The applicant applied for, and was approved for federal funding under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to repair damages to the facility. The applicant, however, has determined that the public interest would be better served by demolishing the existing structure, and constructing a new, smaller facility at the same location.

The public comment period will be from May 11, 2009 to May 25, 2009. Written comments on the proposal may be mailed to:
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Environmental/Historic Preservation, Attn: Nick Knowles
1250 Poydras St., Box 43
New Orleans, LA 70113
or emailed to nicholas.knowles@dhs.gov, or faxed to FEMA's Transitional Recovery Office in New Orleans at (504) 762-2871; and verbal comments will be accepted at (504) 762-2291 between 7:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.