



February 12, 2009

Mr. Claiborne Barnwell, Chief  
Environmental Division  
Mississippi Department of Transportation  
Administration Building  
P.O. Box 1850  
Jackson, MS 39215-1850

Re: Request for Project Review – Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project

Dear Mr. Barnwell:

Jackson County, Mississippi has submitted an application for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding under FEMA's Public Assistance Program being administered in response to FEMA-1604-DR-MS for the proposed Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project, in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged Jackson County, including buildings occupied by the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) Probation and Parole (P&P), Jackson County Election Commission (EC), and the Mississippi State University (MSU) Extension Service. MDOC P&P and Jackson County EC shared a 3,552-square-foot, one-story, brick building located at 2926 Pascagoula Street in the city of Pascagoula. Geographic coordinates of this building are 30.363502 N and 88.555723 W. The MSU Extension Service occupied a 3,511-square-foot, one-story, brick building located at 2941 Pascagoula Street in the city of Pascagoula. Geographic coordinates of the MSU Extension Service building are 30.363636 N and 88.556245 W. The two buildings were located across the street from each other and within the 100-year floodplain (Zone A10 on the traditional flood insurance rate map (FIRM), Zone AE on Digital FIRM maps) and the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Coastal High Hazard Area. Each building was extensively damaged by Katrina's high winds and storm surge, including inundation by up to 5 feet of water. The damages to each building, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for demolition and replacement. MDOC P&P is currently providing service at a reduced capacity, utilizing a temporary facility located at 2902 Shortcut Road in Pascagoula. This facility is of insufficient size and efficiency, and does not fully serve the needs of the MDOC P&P. The MSU Extension Service and the Jackson County EC are currently utilizing an office building located at 4111 Amonett Street in Pascagoula. This facility is of sufficient size, but will require renovations to maximize efficiency.

In lieu of replacement, the applicant (Jackson County) has applied to FEMA for an improved project to construct a new facility for the MDOC P&P and to fund the acquisition and renovation of the Amonett Street facility that is currently occupied by the MSU Extension Service and Jackson County EC.

The proposed MDOC P&P building would be constructed on a 0.75 acre site, located at 1715 Kenneth Avenue in Pascagoula. This property is owned by the county and is adjacent to an existing MDOC facility. The proposed project site is located within an industrial/commercial portion of Pascagoula and previously housed two office trailers. Approximately 40% of the site is paved, and the unpaved portions of the site are previously disturbed. Geographic coordinates of the proposed project site are 30.372016 N and 88.545881



## **Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants**

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W. A portion of the proposed project site is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE on both the traditional FIRM maps and Digital FIRM map). The proposed 3,477 square-foot, one-story building will either be built on the portion of the site that is outside of the 100-year floodplain or elevated with a finished floor elevation higher than the base flood elevation. The building would include ten offices, a break room, conference room, file storage area, and a lobby. Existing paved areas of the proposed project site would be used for parking areas. Existing utilities that provide service to adjacent buildings, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized.

The 4111 Amonett Street building, currently used by the MSU Extension Service and Jackson County EC, is located at geographic coordinates 30.375279 N and 88.537660 W. Interior renovations are included in the project, but no additional construction activities would be required. This facility is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AH). Jackson County has provided an elevation certificate for the facility demonstrating that the building is above the base flood elevation.

NISTAC has been retained by FEMA to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, NISTAC requests that your agency review the proposed project and provide comments and any available information or resources under your agency's jurisdiction within the project area. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by telephone at 713-914-6490, electronic mail at [brian\\_mehok@urscorp.com](mailto:brian_mehok@urscorp.com), or U.S. mail at 9801 Westheimer, Suite 101, Houston, TX 77042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Mehok".

Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,  
Biloxi, MS



## **Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants**

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February 12, 2009

Ms. Robin Zantow  
Administrative Assistant  
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting  
1141 Bayview Avenue  
Biloxi, MS 39530

Re: Request for Project Review – Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project

Dear Ms. Zantow:

Jackson County, Mississippi has submitted an application for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding under FEMA's Public Assistance Program being administered in response to FEMA-1604-DR-MS for the proposed Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project, in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi.

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The proposed MDOC P&P building would be constructed on a 0.75 acre site, located at 1715 Kenneth Avenue in Pascagoula. This property is owned by the county and is adjacent to an existing MDOC facility. The proposed project site is located within an industrial/commercial portion of Pascagoula and previously housed two office trailers. Approximately 40% of the site is paved, and the unpaved portions of the site are previously disturbed. Geographic coordinates of the proposed project site are 30.372016 N and 88.545881 W. A portion of the proposed project site is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE on both the

9801 Westheimer, Suite 101  
Houston, Texas 77042  
TEL 713-914-6490  
FAX 713-789-8404



## **Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants**

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Mehok', written in a cursive style.

Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist

Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,  
Biloxi, MS

9801 Westheimer, Suite 101  
Houston, Texas 77042  
TEL 713-914-6490  
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**MISSISSIPPI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

February 25, 2009

Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist  
NISTAC  
9801 Westheimer, Suite 101  
Houston, TX 77042

RE: DMR-090411

Dear Mr. Mehok:

The Department of Marine Resources in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to insure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

The Department has received a request to review a proposal by Jackson County to construct a new facility for the MDOC P&P and acquire/renovate the Amonett Street facility that is currently occupied by the MSU Extension Service and Jackson County EC in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi. The Department has no objections provided there are no direct or indirect impacts to coastal wetlands and no coastal program agency objects to the proposal. If wetland impacts are anticipated, an application should be submitted to this office for review. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your project.

For more information or questions concerning this correspondence, contact Jennifer Clark with the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting at (228) 523-4111 or [jennifer.clark@dmr.ms.gov](mailto:jennifer.clark@dmr.ms.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willa J. Brantley", written over a horizontal line.

Willa J. Brantley  
Bureau Director, Wetlands Permitting

WJB/jlc



**FEMA**

January 29, 2009

Mr. Jim Woodrick  
Review and Compliance Officer  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Historic Preservation Division  
P.O. Box 571  
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

**RE:** Concurrence with the finding of **Not Eligible for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places** for 2926 Pascagoula Street, Pascagoula, MS and 2941 Pascagoula Street, Pascagoula, MS

**RE:** Concurrence with the **Determination of No Historic Properties Affected** for the Demolition of the buildings at 2926 Pascagoula Street and 2941 Pascagoula Street, Pascagoula, MS

Dear Mr. Woodrick:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the lead Federal agency charged with assisting disaster-stricken communities throughout the United States, pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C., 5121-5206c) and other related legislation.

In performing its mission in Mississippi, FEMA plans to provide funding through its Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program to Jackson County (FEMA's Applicant) for damage incurred at 2926 Pascagoula Street which served as the County's Department of Corrections and 2941 Pascagoula Street which served as the Agricultural Office prior to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. The damage to each of these buildings, resulting from Katrina's storm surge and high winds, exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, allowing them to be eligible for replacement. The Applicant has decided to demolish these structures and use FEMA funds to relocate the uses. Because of the level of damage sustained by these structures, these projects are eligible for FEMA funded demolition of 2926 and 2941 Pascagoula Street and FEMA funded relocation of the uses to a new location.

**Area of Potential Effect and Historic District Eligibility**

The area of potential effect is .25 miles which allows for adequate evaluation of the potential effects of the demolition of these two structures. The buildings are located directly opposite each other on the corner of Pascagoula and School Streets. The building at 2941 Pascagoula Street is located on the same square as the Pascagoula High School, which opened in 1939 and is a Mississippi Landmark, and is immediately adjacent to a two-story gymnasium that lies between the building and the high school. The buildings at 2941 and 2926 Pascagoula Street are located within a low-scale streetscape composed of buildings that vary widely in age, use and style. In the block to the north is the historic Christ Lutheran Church; a block to the south are

several Victorian style homes. The streetscape has been heavily impacted by demolition over the years, and its integrity has been marred by the presence of numerous empty lots, parking lots, and recently constructed buildings. Therefore, the area lacks the architectural integrity required for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district.

**Assessment of National Register Eligibility and Determination of “No Historic Properties Affected” for the Building at 2926 Pascagoula Street**

This one-story, red brick veneer building, constructed circa 1956, features stylistic elements reflecting the popularity of the residential Ranch style in the post-World War II era. The emphasis on horizontal lines is seen in the low-pitched hip roof and the bands of 1-over-1 wood sash windows located on the front and side facades of the building. A detached decorative concrete screen stretches across bays on the right side of the main façade, further emphasizing the horizontality of the building. The entrance is located off-center left on the main façade; the recessed entrance is a double metal door with large transom and left sidelight. The building is U-shaped; a concrete block addition is located in the space formed by the U. Prior to Hurricane Katrina, the building housed the Jackson County Election Commission, the Department of Corrections, and the Probation and Parole functions.

FEMA has determined that the building does not meet National Register criteria for listing in the National Register, either individually or as part of a historic district. **Therefore, FEMA requests concurrence with its finding of “No Historic Properties Affected.”**

**Assessment of National Register Eligibility and Determination of “No Historic Properties Affected” for the Building at 2941 Pascagoula Street**

The building at 2941 Pascagoula Street is a one-story painted white brick building, constructed circa 1941. The building is an irregular cross shape, with the central mass having a hip roof and the front and rear wing having gable roofs. The gable roof on the shallow front wing, however, has been altered; the re-sided gable end and the replacement of the original porch supports with decorative iron posts greatly diminished the architectural integrity of the structure. The windows on the side and rear elevations are single 2-over-2 wood windows. The windows on the front façade are a triple unit with an aluminum frame of 2-over-2 windows.

Research revealed that the property was purchased by Dr. Alspach from the heirs of A.G. Delmas circa 1941, when the building was already under construction. It was sold by Dr. Alspach to the County in 1945. The deed states that at the time of sale, the property was known as the Alspach Clinic, a privately owned facility. It was sold to the County with the contents with the understanding that the facility would be used as a County Medical Clinic. Prior to Hurricane Katrina, this 3,511-square foot building housed the Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU). A careful search of the records held by the local archive and library revealed no additional information about the building. The design of the building is somewhat reminiscent of a church or residential structure. It is a vernacular styled structure with no distinctive architectural or historical significance.

FEMA has determined that the building does not meet National Register criteria for listing in the National Register, either individually or as part of a historic district. **Therefore, FEMA requests concurrence with its finding of “No Historic Properties Affected.”**

**Summary:**

**FEMA requests SHPO concurrence with its determinations that the buildings at 2926 Pascagoula Street and 2941 Pascagoula Street do not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register, either individually or as part of a historic district. FEMA also requests concurrence with its findings of “No Effect on Historic Properties” for the proposed demolition of the above-named buildings.** A map and several images are provided. Your prompt review and comment on this project is greatly appreciated. Should you need additional information, please contact Elrhei Thibodeaux, Historic Preservation Specialist, at 228-594-2955 or by e-mail at [Elrhei.thibodeaux@dhs.gov](mailto:Elrhei.thibodeaux@dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Michael Grisham

Environmental Liaison Officer

FEMA – 1604-DR-MS

Client Name:

Site Location:

Project No.

| Date | Data Point | Photo No. |
|------|------------|-----------|
|------|------------|-----------|

Direction Photo Taken:

Description:

2926 Pascagoula  
Main elevation



| Date | Data Point | Photo No. |
|------|------------|-----------|
|------|------------|-----------|

Direction Photo Taken:

Description:

2926 Pascagoula Street  
Main elevation details



**Client Name:**

**Site Location:**

**Project No.:**

Date

Data Point

Photo No.

**Direction Photo Taken:**

**Description:**

2926 Pascagoula Street  
Oblique looking northeast



Date

Data Point

Photo No.

**Direction Photo Taken:**

**Description:**

2926 Pascagoula Street  
rear looking north, showing  
rear addition in the middle



|                     |                       |                     |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Client Name:</b> | <b>Site Location:</b> | <b>Project No.:</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|

| Date  | Data Point | Photo No. |   |
|---|------------|-----------|---|
| <b>Direction Photo Taken:</b>   |            |           |  |
| <b>Description:</b>   |            |           |   |
| 2926 Pascagoula Street<br>Rear showing the addition<br>in the middle of the U |            |           |   |

| Date                                      | Data Point | Photo No. |  |
|---|------------|-----------|--|
| <b>Direction Photo Taken:</b>             |            |           |  |
| <b>Description:</b>                       |            |           |  |
| 2926 Pascagoula Street<br>South elevation |            |           |  |

Client Name:

Site Location:

Project No.

| Date | Data Point | Photo No. |
|------|------------|-----------|
|------|------------|-----------|

Direction Photo Taken:

Description:

2941 Pascagoula  
Main elevation



| Date | Data Point | Photo No. |
|------|------------|-----------|
|------|------------|-----------|

Direction Photo Taken:

Description:

2941 Pascagoula Street  
North elevation looking  
southwesterly

