



Nationwide Infrastructure Support Technical Assistance Consultants

A Joint Venture of URS Group, Inc. and Dewberry & Davis, LLC

March 13, 2009

Mr. Ray Aycock
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jackson Field Office
6578 Dogwood View Parkway
Suite A
Jackson, MS 39213

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Aycock:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 21,600 square feet. The construction of a 305-space parking lot is included in the proposed project (Figure 3). Hancock County is proposing to utilize Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to construct both buildings to 361 shelter standards, which will include elevation to the 500-year floodplain at 23.1 feet.

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 on 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 301-258-5811, electronic mail at ida_namur@urscorp.com, or U.S. mail at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,
NISTAC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ida Namur", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ida Namur
Project Environmental Scientist

Enclosures as noted

200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
TEL 301-670-3376
FAX 301-869-8728



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March 13, 2009

Mr. James D. Giattina
Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Water Management Division
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Giattina:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 21,600 square feet. The construction of a 305-space parking lot is included in the proposed project (Figure 3). Hancock County is proposing to utilize Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to construct both buildings to 361 shelter standards, which will include elevation to the 500-year floodplain at 23.1 feet.

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March 13, 2009

Mr. Homer L. Wilkes
State Conservationist
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
100 W. Capitol Street
Suite 1321 Federal Bldg.
Jackson, MS 39269

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Wilkes:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 21,600 square feet. The construction of a 305-space parking lot is included in the proposed project (Figure 3). Hancock County is proposing to utilize Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to construct both buildings to 361 shelter standards, which will include elevation to the 500-year floodplain at 23.1 feet.

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 on 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 301-258-5811, electronic mail at ida_namur@urscorp.com, or U.S. mail at the letterhead address.

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March 13, 2009

Dr. Susan Rees
PD
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District, Planning Division
109 Saint Joseph Street
Mobile, AL 36602

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Rees:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 21,600 square feet. The construction of a 305-space parking lot is included in the proposed project (Figure 3). Hancock County is proposing to utilize Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to construct both buildings to 361 shelter standards, which will include elevation to the 500-year floodplain at 23.1 feet.

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 on 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 301-258-5811, electronic mail at ida_namur@urscorp.com, or U.S. mail at the letterhead address.

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March 13, 2009

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

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Barnwell:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 21,600 square feet. The construction of a 305-space parking lot is included in the proposed project (Figure 3). Hancock County is proposing to utilize Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to construct both buildings to 361 shelter standards, which will include elevation to the 500-year floodplain at 23.1 feet.

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 on 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 301-258-5811, electronic mail at ida_namur@urscorp.com, or U.S. mail at the letterhead address.

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March 13, 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 – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Ms. Zantow:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 21,600 square feet. The construction of a 305-space parking lot is included in the proposed project (Figure 3). Hancock County is proposing to utilize Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to construct both buildings to 361 shelter standards, which will include elevation to the 500-year floodplain at 23.1 feet.

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March 13, 2009

Ms. Michelle Vinson
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Pollution Control, Environmental Permits Division
P.O. Box 2261
Jackson, MS 39289-0385

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Ms. Vinson:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

Hancock County proposes to construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis (Figures 1 and 2). The proposed project site is located outside of the 100-year floodplain on both the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM; Zone C, Community Panel Number 2852510003B) and preliminary Digital FIRM (Zone X, Map Numbers 28045C0353D and 28045C0361D), and is also located outside of the ABFE (Map Numbers MS-G10 and MS-F10). A former medical clinic is also located on the property; the clinic building has been abandoned and is scheduled for demolition as part of the project. The remainder of the proposed project site is vacant and was previously occupied by FEMA trailers (see Photographic Log). The proposed project site is bound to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential properties. Access to the site would be provided via Highway 90. Existing utilities that provide service to buildings on Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power, would be utilized for the proposed new buildings.

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March 13, 2009

Mr. Andy Prosser
Bureau Director
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
P.O. Box 1609
Jackson, MS 39215

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Prosser:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

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March 13, 2009

Mr. Don Underwood
Executive Director
Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 23005
Jackson, MS 39225-3005

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance Program to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Annex Complex to replace Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina. On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Mississippi, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged six County buildings. The damages exceeded the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement.

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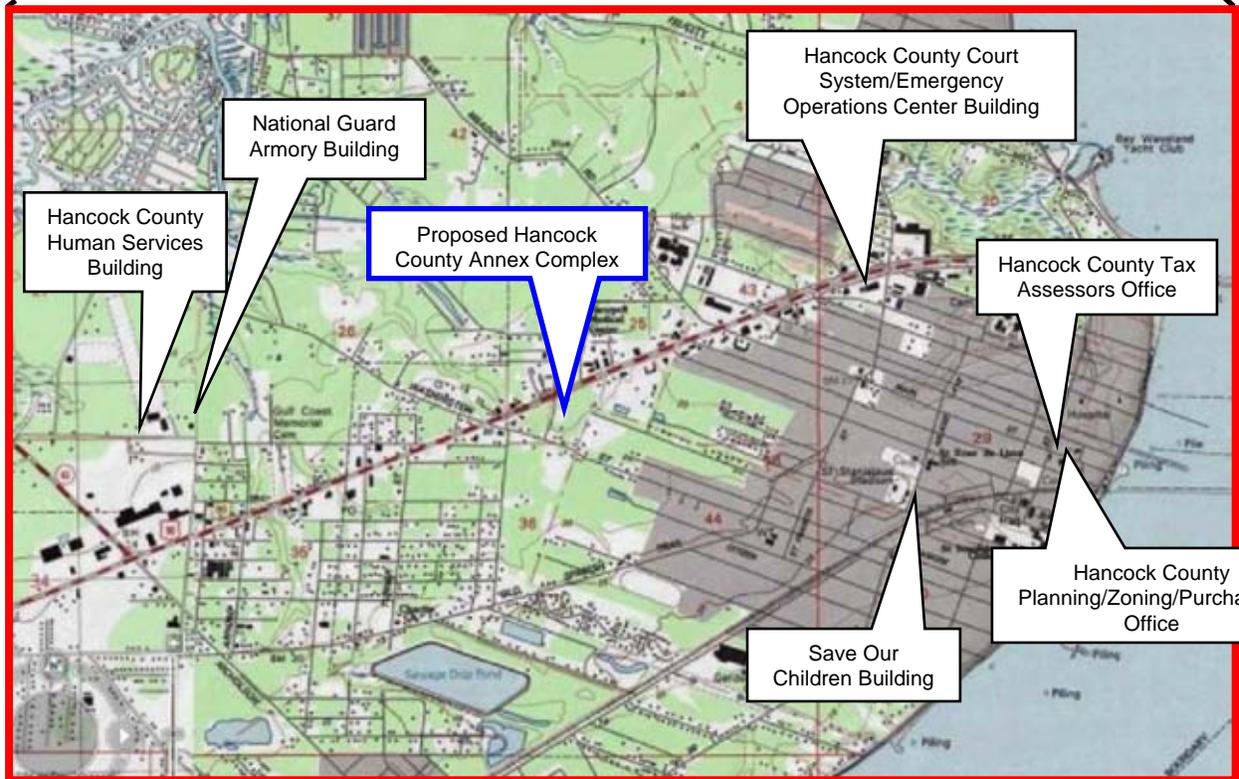
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Ida Namur
Project Environmental Scientist

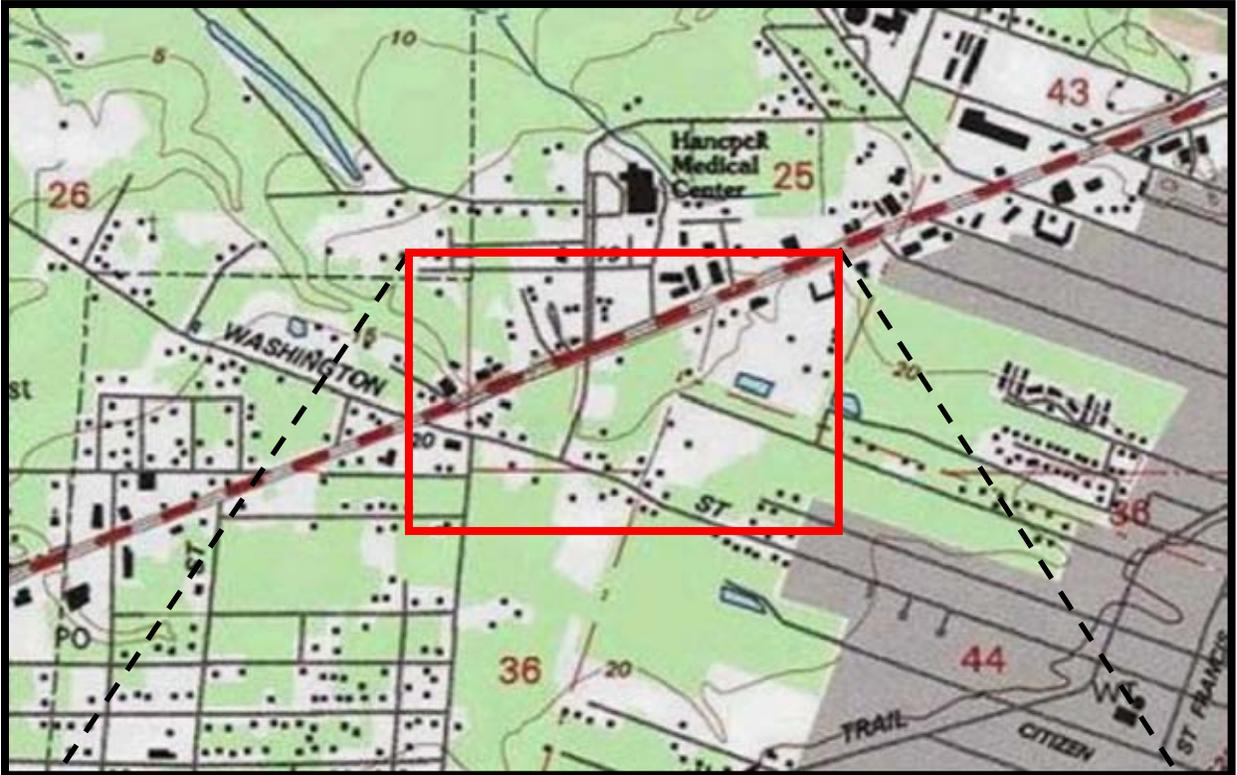
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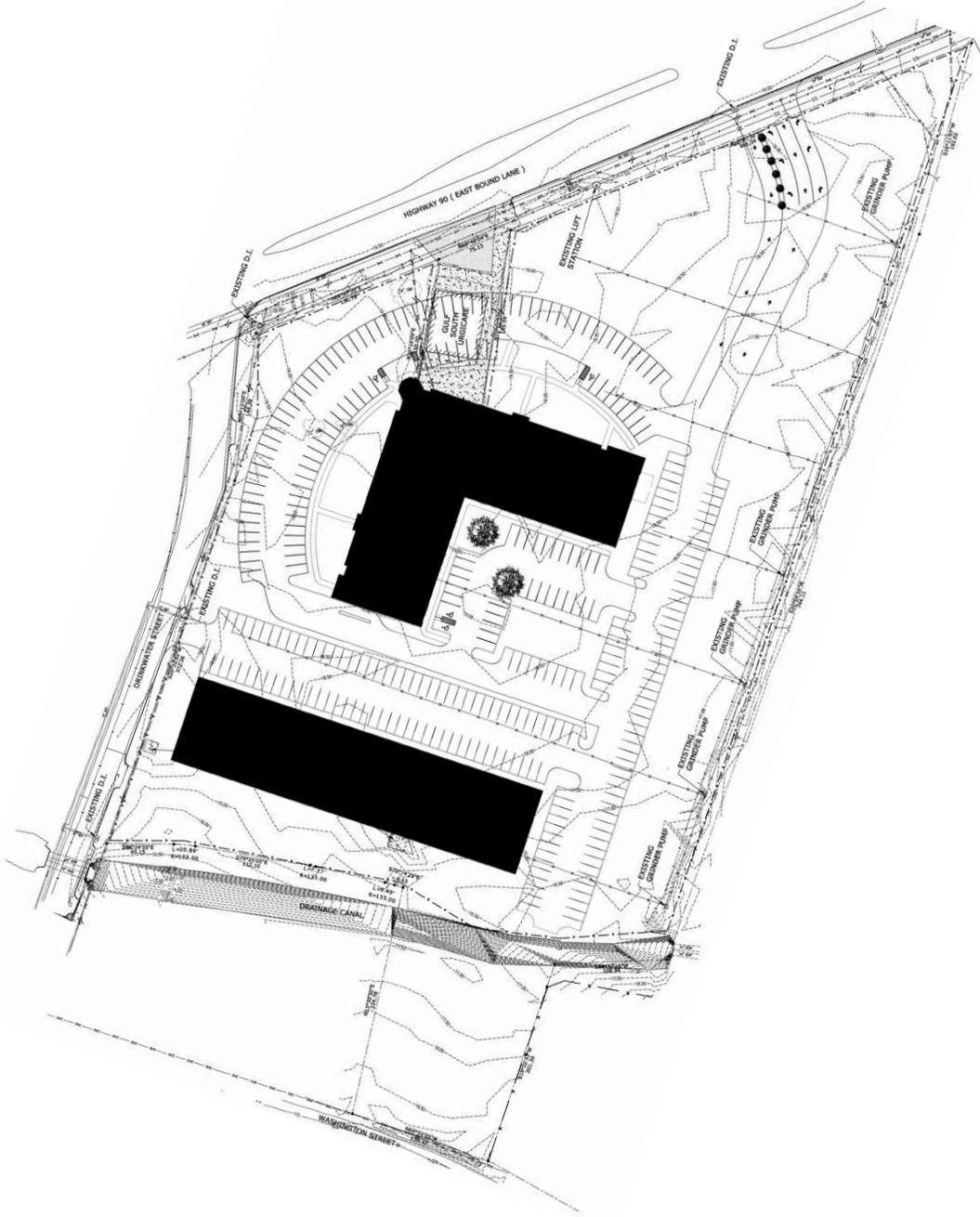
Source: USGS, Waveland and Bay St. Louis quadrangles

CLIENT Hancock County				TITLE PROJECT VICINITY	
PROJ Hancock County Annex Complex					
REVISION NO	03/09/09	DES BY			PROJ NO 15708003
SCALE		DR BY			FIGURE 1
FILE		CHK BY			



Source: USGS, Bay St. Louis quadrangle; Aerials Express Gulf Coast 2006

CLIENT Hancock County				TITLE PROJECT AREA	
PROJ Hancock County Annex Complex					
REVISION NO	03/09/09	DES BY			PROJ NO 15708003
SCALE		DR BY			FIGURE 2
FILE		CHK BY			



Source: Compton Engineering, Inc.

CLIENT Hancock County		TITLE CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN	
PROJ Hancock County Annex Complex			PROJ NO 15708003
REVISION NO 03/09/09	DES BY		FIGURE 3
SCALE NTS	DR BY		
FILE	CHK BY		



PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

Client Name: FEMA		Site Location: Hancock County Annex Complex Project, Hancock County, MS	Project No. 15708003
Photo No. 1	Date: 3/2/09		
Direction Photo Taken: North			
Description: View of proposed site facing north. This is typical terrain across the entire site.			

Photo No. 2	Date: 3/2/09	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description: Existing abandoned building on north section of site (former medical clinic). This building will be demolished.		

Photo No. 3	Date: 3/2/09	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description: Northeast corner of site.		
Photo No. 4	Date: 03/09	
Direction Photo Taken:		
Description: View of the Save our Children building, located approximately 1.1 miles to the southeast of the proposed project site.		



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Transitional Recovery Office
Physical Address
220 Popps Ferry Rd.
Building A South
Biloxi, MS 39532

March 26, 2009

Mr. Jim Woodrick
FEMA Point of Contact
Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Historic Preservation Division
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Government Annex Complex Project

Dear Mr. Woodrick:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for an improved project to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Government Annex Complex to replace five Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina (Figure 1). On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged these County office buildings. Damages to each of the County office buildings exceed the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement of the structures. All of the former County offices, with the exception of the Save Our Children building, have been demolished due to health and safety concerns. In accordance with FEMA's relocation policy for FEMA-1604-DR-MS, all five properties were returned to grade and revegetated.

Under the proposed action, Hancock County would construct the Hancock County Government Annex Complex on an approximately 9.8-acre site that is located on Highway 90 in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and relocate the services provided by each of the damaged facilities to the new complex. Geographic coordinates of the proposed relocation site are 30.312971 N and 89.354679 W (Figure 2). The proposed relocation site is bounded to the north by Highway 90 and commercial property, to the south by an unnamed drainage canal and residential properties, to the west by commercial property including a hotel and restaurant, and to the east by commercial and residential property. The buildings on the surrounding properties are all less than 50 years old and do not meet National Register Criterion G for properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years. The proposed relocation site formerly contained FEMA trailers. These have since been removed, leaving the lot vacant, except for an abandoned medical clinic on the northern portion of the property. The terrain is flat and ground cover consists of approximately 90 percent gravel and 10 percent exposed ground. Serious ground disturbance is present from prior use and many areas contain large pools of water in rutted-out areas.

The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 15,000 square feet. Also included in the proposed project are the construction of a 305-space parking lot and the demolition of the existing abandoned medical clinic. The complex would use existing utilities that provide service to adjacent buildings along Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power.

On March 3, 2009, a FEMA Archaeologist and Architectural Historian, both qualified under the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (36 CFR Part 61) in their respective disciplines, conducted an assessment of the project's potential to affect historic properties within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the damaged building sites and the proposed relocation site. The APE is the geographic area within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if such properties exist. For archaeological resources, the APE consists of the former and proposed project sites; for above-ground historic properties, the APE is extended out to a 0.5-mile radius around each of the former and proposed project sites. This APE was previously established through FEMA consultation with the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

A site visit to the proposed relocation site revealed that no above ground historic properties are present within the APE of this site and the site is not located within the boundaries of a National Register Historic District. The potential for existing and intact below ground cultural resources is considered to be low at the proposed relocation site due to geographic location, ground disturbance, data from previous Phase 1 surveys in the immediate area (Survey #83-134 and #84-019) and the lack of recorded sites within a 2-mile radius of the APE. Survey #83-134 bordered the proposed relocation site along its western side and produced negative results.

Previous Section 106 consultation (for the establishment of the FEMA temporary trailer park) with the SHPO on September 26, 2005, led to a determination of no historic properties affected; therefore, FEMA will make the same determination for the proposed relocation site and does not recommend a Phase 1 Archaeological Investigation be conducted.

FEMA conducted a records review and site visit of the former building sites, of which the National Guard Armory and the Save Our Children sites were the only properties of potential historical significance. FEMA Historic Preservation staff evaluated the National Guard Armory on June 9, 2006, and determined that the structure, built circa 1965, did not meet the 50-year criterion or level of exceptional importance to be considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and that no effect on historic properties would occur from the demolition and replacement of the structure. FEMA determined that no impacts to archeological resources would occur from the demolition of the National Guard Armory structure.

The Save Our Children building, located at 405 South Necaise Ave, is a one-story, rectangular building, with a front gable roof, and is constructed of rusticated concrete block. In a letter to Mississippi Department of Archives and History dated March 20, 2009, FEMA

recognized that the structure meets the age requirement to contribute to the Beach Boulevard Historic District, but determined that it has been rendered a non-contributing structure, as long-term neglect and storm damage have destroyed the architectural integrity of the building. The potential for existing and intact below ground cultural resources is considered low at this location due to geographic location, previous ground disturbance, and the lack of recorded archeological sites within a 2-mile radius of the APE; however FEMA will recommend the use of Lower-Impact Demolition Requirements, developed by FEMA and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), for demolition activities. FEMA requested SHPO's concurrence with a finding of "No Adverse Affect to Historic Properties" for the demolition of the Save Our Children building.

FEMA 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 Paul Drummond by telephone at (228) 594-2960 or electronic mail at paul.a.drummond@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Michael Grisham
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1604-DR-MS



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Transitional Recovery Office
Physical Address
220 Popps Ferry Rd.
Building A South
Biloxi, MS 39532

March 26, 2009

Mr. Kenneth H. Carleton
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
101 Industrial Road
Choctaw, MS 39305

Re: Request for Project Review – Hancock County Government Annex Complex Project

Dear Mr. Carleton:

Hancock County has applied for federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for an improved project to consolidate county functions and services and construct a new Hancock County Government Annex Complex to replace five Hancock County buildings damaged during Hurricane Katrina (Figure 1). On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing a storm surge and high winds that severely damaged these County office buildings. Damages to each of the County office buildings exceed the 50% repair/replacement ratio, meeting FEMA's criteria for demolition and replacement of the structures. All of the former County offices, with the exception of the Save Our Children building, have been demolished due to health and safety concerns. In accordance with FEMA's relocation policy for FEMA-1604-DR-MS, all five properties were returned to grade and revegetated.

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The proposed complex would consist of two buildings: the Hancock County Government Annex Building and the Human Services Building. The Annex building is proposed to be approximately 28,600 square feet and the Human Services Building is proposed to be approximately 15,000 square feet. Also included in the proposed project are the construction of a 305-space parking lot and the demolition of the existing abandoned medical clinic. The complex would use existing utilities that provide service to adjacent buildings along Highway 90, including municipal water, sewer, and power.

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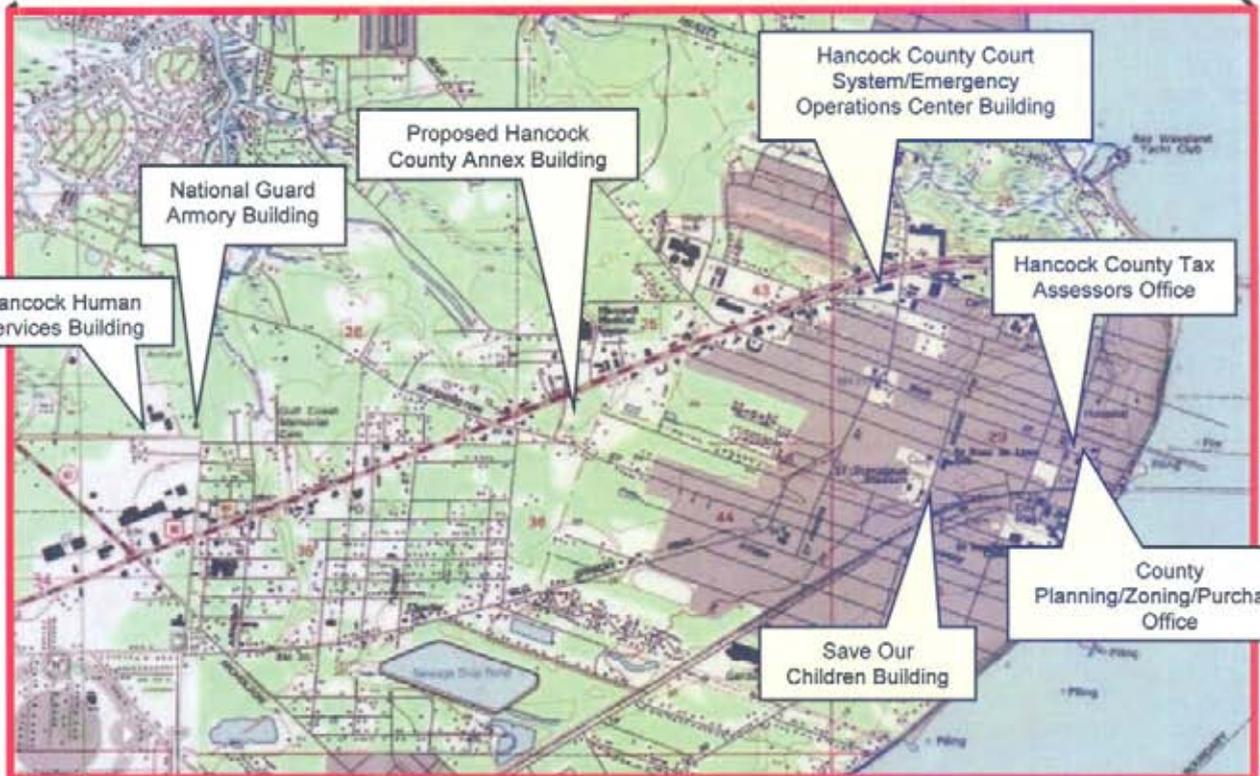
recognized that the structure meets the age requirement to contribute to the Beach Boulevard Historic District, but determined that it has been rendered a non-contributing structure, as long-term neglect and storm damage have destroyed the architectural integrity of the building. The potential for existing and intact below ground cultural resources is considered low at this location due to geographic location, previous ground disturbance, and the lack of recorded archeological sites within a 2-mile radius of the APE; however FEMA will recommend the use of Lower-Impact Demolition Requirements, developed by FEMA and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), for demolition activities. FEMA requested SHPO's concurrence with a finding of "No Adverse Affect to Historic Properties" for the demolition of the Save Our Children building.

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Sincerely,

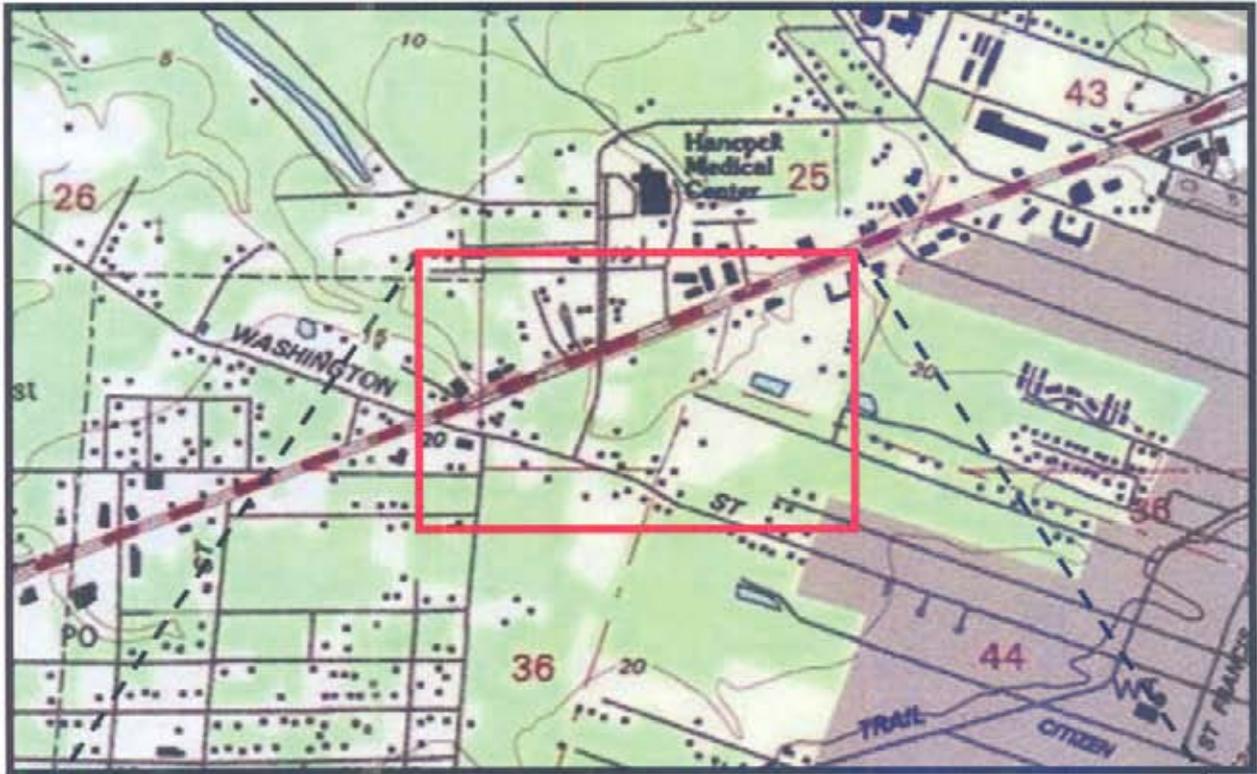


Michael Grisham
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1604-DR-MS



Source: USGS, Waveland and Bay St. Louis quadrangles

CLIENT Hancock County			TITLE PROJECT VICINITY		
PROJ Hancock County Annex Improved Project					
REVISION NO	Draft	DES BY			PROJ NO 15708003
SCALE		DR BY			FIGURE 1
FILE		CHK BY			



Source: USGS, Bay St. Louis quadrangle; Aerials Express Gulf Coast 2006

CLIENT Hancock County			TITLE			PROJ NO 15708003
PROJ Hancock County Annex Improved Project			PROJECT AREA			
REVISION NO	Draft	DES BY			FIGURE 2	
SCALE		DR BY				
FILE		CHK BY				

Client Name:

Hancock County

Site Location:

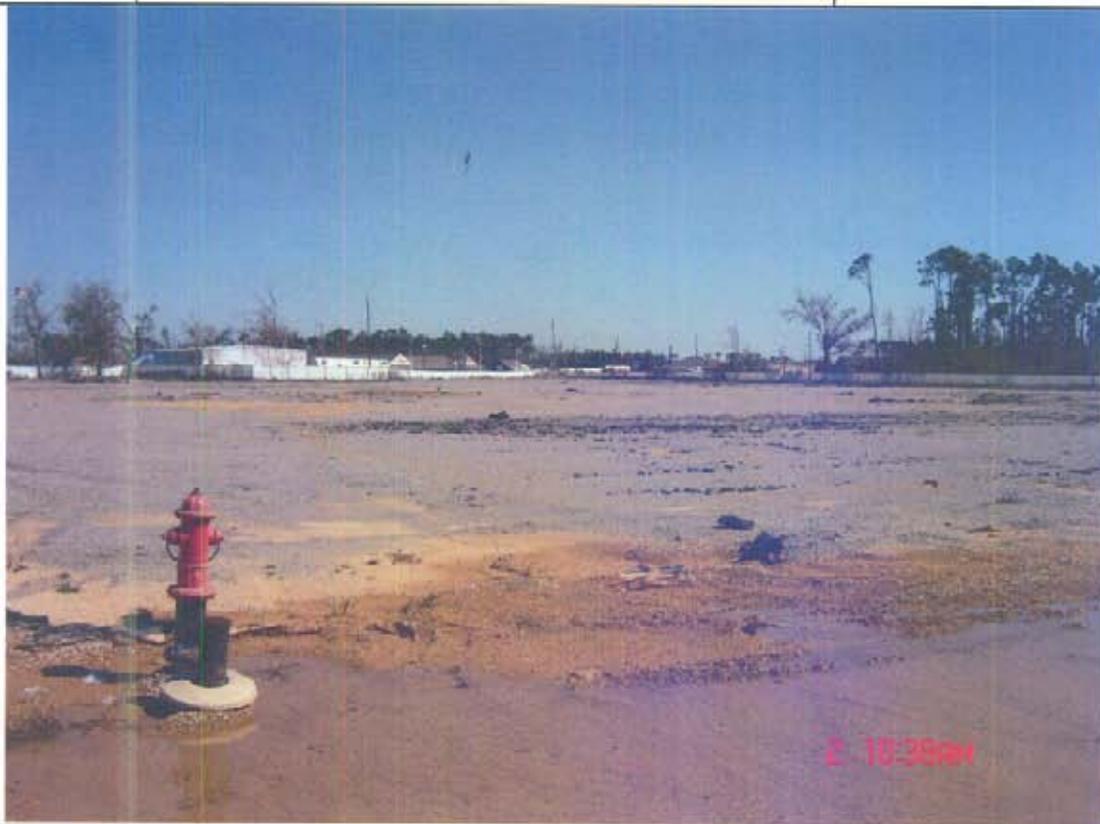
Hwy 90 and Drinkwater St. Bay St. Louis, MS

Project No.Date
3/3/09Data
PointPhoto
No.
1**Direction Photo Taken:**

Southwest facing northeast

Description:

Overall view of APE.
Standing water and
ground disturbance
dominates the site.

Date
3/3/09Data
PointPhoto
No.
2**Direction Photo Taken:**

Northwest facing southeast

Description:

Large area of standing
water and ground
disturbance.



Client Name:
Hancock County

Site Location:
Hwy 90 and Drinkwater St. Bay St. Louis, MS

Project No.

Date	Data Point	Photo No.
3/3/09		3

Direction Photo Taken:

West facing east

Description:

Southern boundary of APE.
Note large drainage canal.



Date	Data Point	Photo No.
3/3/09		4

Direction Photo Taken:

East facing west.

Description:

Streetscape of Hwy 90
from the northern boundary
of site.



Client Name:
Hancock County

Site Location:
Hwy 90 and Drinkwater St. Bay St. Louis, MS

Project No.

Date	Data Point	Photo No.
3/3/09		5

Direction Photo Taken:

West facing east

Description:

Commercial development on the east side of APE.



Date	Data Point	Photo No.
3/3/09		6

Direction Photo Taken:

North facing south

Description:

Medical clinic that will be removed. This is on the north side of APE fronting Hwy. 90.





United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Suite 1321, Federal Building
100 West Capitol Street
Jackson, MS 39269

April 6, 2009

Ida Namur
Project Environmental Scientist
NISTAC
200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Dear Ms. Namur:

This is in response to your letter dated March 13, 2009 regarding the Request for Project Review – Hancock County Annex Complex Project in Hancock County, Mississippi.

Prime Farmland (FPPA) determinations are not required within city limits.

Sincerely,

Reginald K. Harris
Acting State Soil Scientist



HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Ken P'Pool, director • Jim Woodrick, acting director
PO Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6940 • Fax 601-576-6955
mdah.state.ms.us

April 14, 2009

Mr. Michael Grisham
Federal Emergency Management Agency
220 Popps Ferry Road
Building A South
Biloxi, Mississippi 39532

RE: Proposed Government Annex Complex by the Hancock County Board of Supervisors, MDAH Project Log #03-180-09, Hancock County

Dear Mr. Grisham:

We have reviewed your request for a cultural resources assessment, received on March 30, for the above referenced project in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR Part 800. After reviewing the information provided, it is our determination that no cultural resources are likely to be affected. Therefore, we have no objection with the proposed undertaking.

Should there be additional work in connection with the project, or any changes in the scope of work, please let us know in order that we may provide you with appropriate comments in compliance with the above referenced regulations.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (601) 576-6940.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hal Bell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Hal Bell
Review and Compliance Assistant

FOR: Jim Woodrick
Review and Compliance Officer

c: Clearinghouse for Federal Programs