



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

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

February 12, 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 – Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project

Dear Mr. Aycock:

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 W. A portion of the proposed project site is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE on both the

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Houston, Texas 77042  
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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.

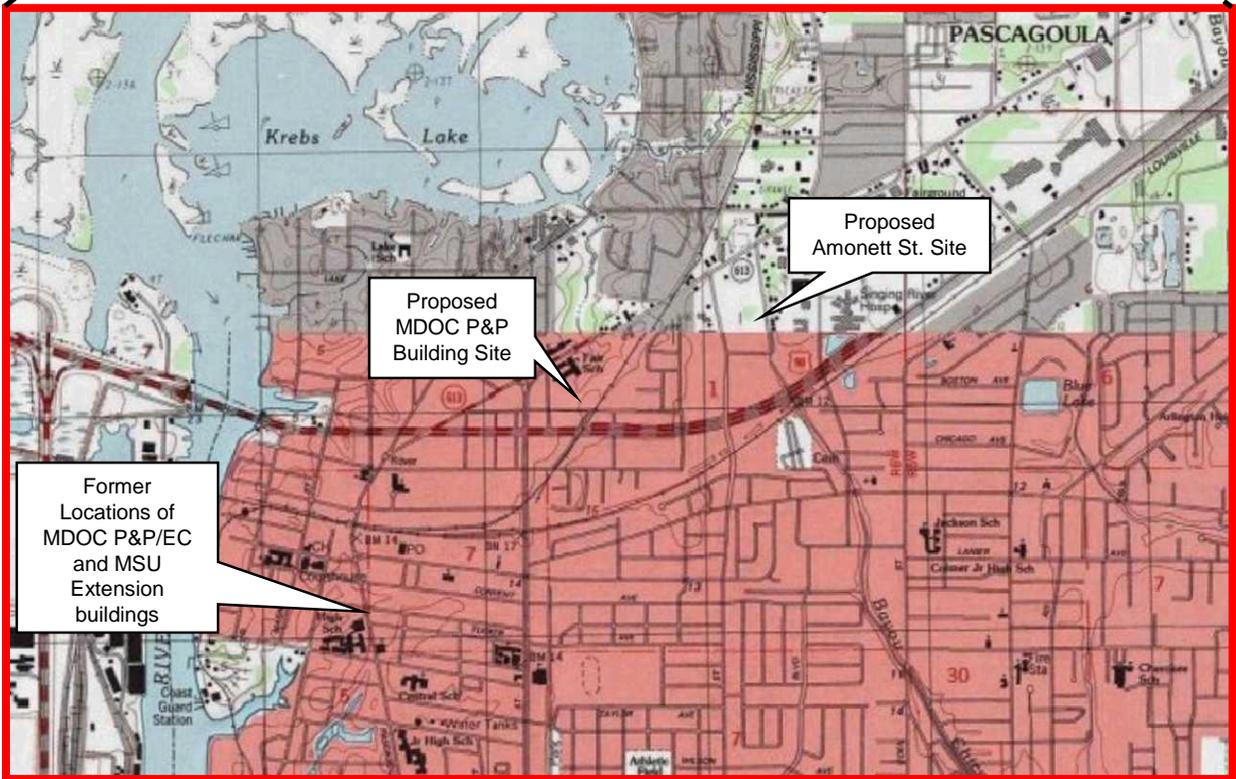
Sincerely,

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Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist

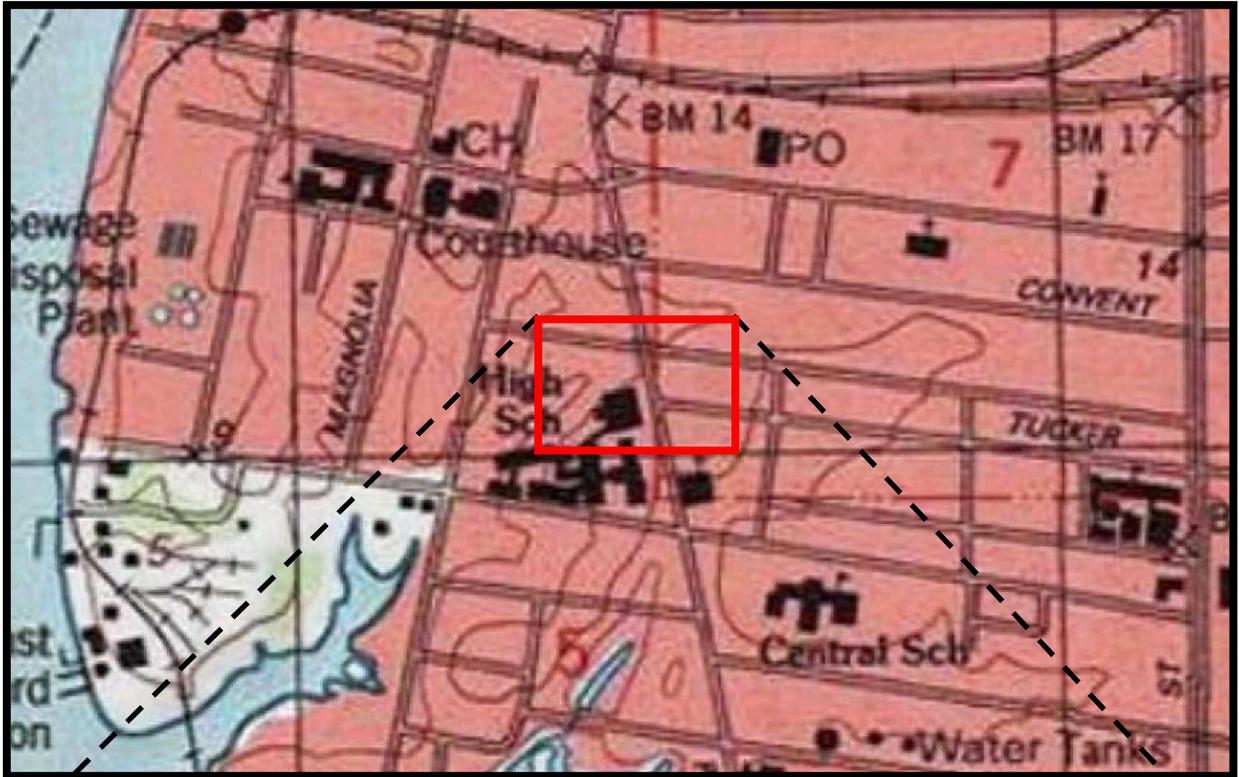
Cc: Michael Grisham, FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office,  
Biloxi, MS

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Houston, Texas 77042  
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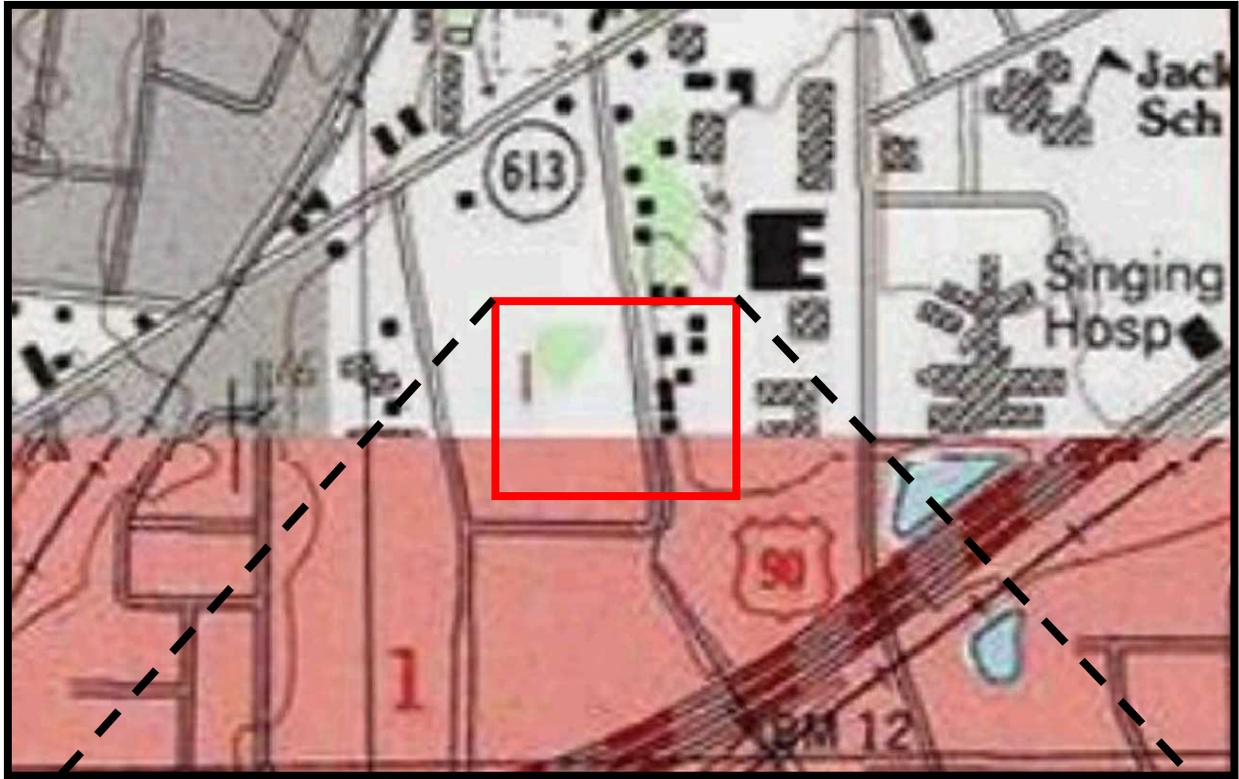
Source: USGS, Pascagoula North and Pascagoula South quadrangles

CLIENT Jackson County		TITLE		<b>PROJECT VICINITY</b>	
PROJ Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project					
REVISION NO	DES BY			PROJ NO	15708003
SCALE	DR BY			FIGURE	1
FILE	CHK BY				



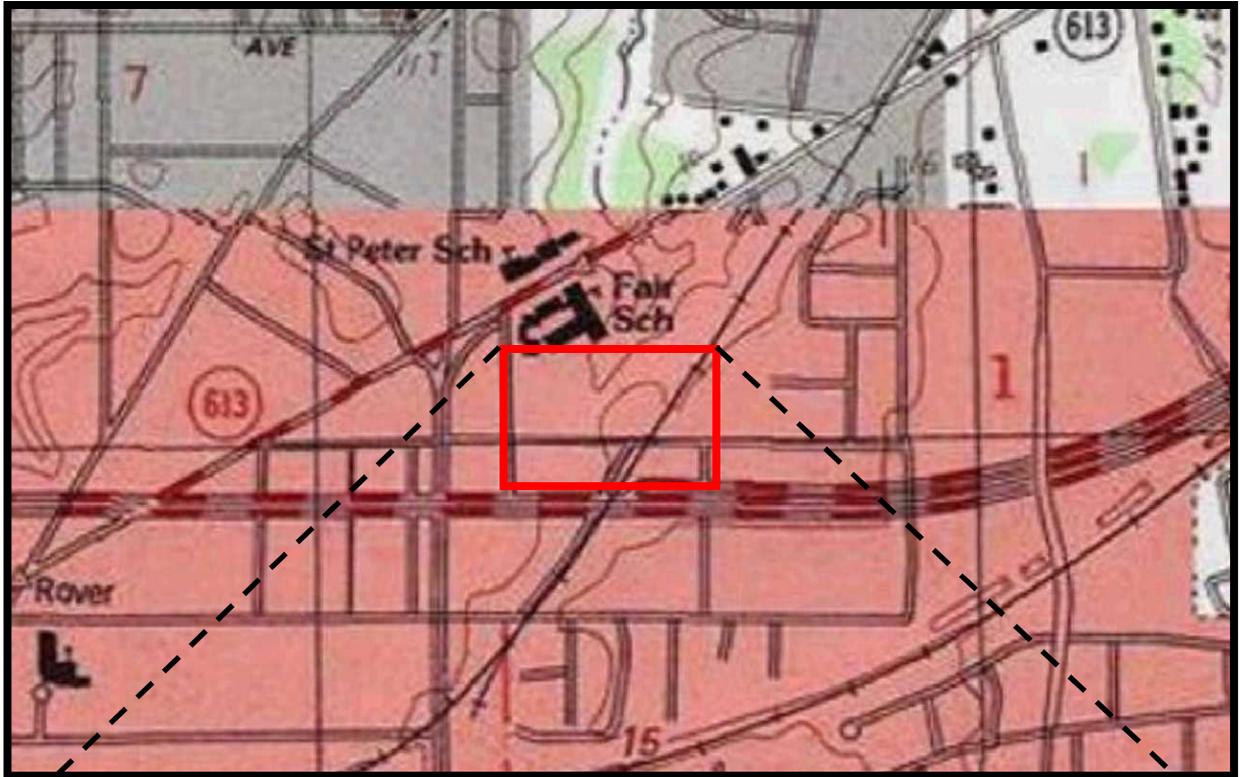
Source: USGS, Pascagoula South quadrangle, Aerials Express Gulf Coast 2006

CLIENT Jackson County				TITLE <b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
PROJ Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project						
REVISION NO	DES BY		PROJ NO			15708003
SCALE	DR BY		FIGURE			2
FILE	CHK BY					



Source: USGS, Pascagoula North and Pascagoula South quadrangles, Aerials Express Gulf Coast 2006

CLIENT Jackson County				TITLE	
PROJ Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project					
REVISION NO	DES BY				
SCALE	DR BY				
FILE	CHK BY				
				PROJ NO	15708003
				FIGURE	3



Source: USGS, Pascagoula North and Pascagoula South quadrangles, Aerials Express Gulf Coast 2006

CLIENT Jackson County			TITLE		<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
PROJ Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project						
REVISION NO	DES BY				PROJ NO	15708003
SCALE	DR BY				FIGURE	4
FILE	CHK BY					



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RECEIVED  
FEB 20 2009  
By MS Field Office

No federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species present

*Amel T. J. J. J.*  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mississippi Field Office  
6578 Dogwood View Pkwy  
Jackson, MS 39213

Log # 09-378 Date 2/23/09

February 12, 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 – Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project

Dear Mr. Aycock:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Mehok", with a long, sweeping underline.

Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist

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

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February 12, 2009

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

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

Dear Dr. Rees:

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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February 12, 2009

Ms. Michelle Vinson  
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Environmental Permits Division, Office of Pollution Control  
P.O. Box 2261  
Jackson, MS 39225

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

Dear Ms. Vinson:

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February 12, 2009

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

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

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

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Dear Mr. Underwood:

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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 W. A portion of the proposed project site is located within the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE on both the

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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, appearing to read "Brian Mehok", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist

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



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February 12, 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 – Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project

Dear Mr. Giattina:

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.

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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

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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 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.

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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

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

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February 12, 2009

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

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

Dear Mr. Wilkes:

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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Sincerely,

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Brian Mehok  
Environmental Specialist

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

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

April 6, 2009

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

Dear Mr. Mehok:

This is in response to your letter dated February 12, 2009 regarding the Request for Project Review – Jackson County Departments and Services Relocation Project in Jackson County, Mississippi.

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

Sincerely,



Reginald K. Harris  
Acting State Soil Scientist