

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**FEMA NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**  
**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
**DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**LOUISIANA STATEWIDE ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEM PROJECT—**  
**CONSTRUCTION OF DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR SYSTEM TOWER**  
**MONROE, OUACHITA PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the EA and FONSI is to assess the effects on the human and natural environment from the construction of a Doppler Weather Radar System Tower at the University of Louisiana, Monroe (ULM) on Highway 80 East, Monroe, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, a proposed action for which FEMA is considering providing funding assistance.

The purpose of the draft EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of the Doppler Weather Radar System Tower. The draft EA evaluates a No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action, which is to construct a 70-foot tower which will support a dual polarization radar antenna/pedestal assembly with a 41-foot Sandwich Foam Core Radome. The FONSI will be FEMA's finding that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment, if no additional substantive information is discovered during the comment period.

The location of the site is south of the ULM Agriculture & Auto Science Shop located at 807 U.S. Highway 80 East, Monroe, Louisiana. This location was selected by the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness because ULM is strategically located in the center of the area with poor Doppler Weather coverage. ULM has facilities that are suitable for a DWRS site and faculty as well as students who are knowledgeable about DWRS operation and maintenance.

A draft EA was written to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

The draft EA and draft FONSI are available for review at the Ouachita Parish Library (Main Branch) – 1800 Stubbs Avenue, Monroe, Louisiana 71201, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday; and 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday. The documents can be downloaded from FEMA's website at [www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm). After the comment period has closed, and for documents from previous years, EAs will be moved to the archives page at [http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives\\_index.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives_index.shtm). The comment period will begin January 9, 2012 and ends January 28, 2012 at 4 pm. Comments may be mailed to: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY--FEMA E/HP—Construction of Doppler Weather Radar System Tower Project, 1 Seine Court, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor New Orleans, LA 70114. Comments may be emailed to: FEMA-NOMA@dhs.gov or faxed to: 504-762-2323. Verbal comments will be accepted or recorded at 504-762-2205. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice for work in the floodplain in accordance with 44 CFR Part 9.12.