

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT FONSI FOR
CHANGE OF LOCATION
ALEXIS BAY MARSH TERRACES
PLAQUEMINES PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed relocation and reconstruction of the Alexis Bay Marsh Terrace Facility in southeast Plaquemines Louisiana. The proposed project would replace the functions and capacity eligible for replacement at the original facility in a new location adjacent to the damaged facility at latitude 29.319/longitude -89.329. Plaquemines Parish seeks federal grant funds for this action eligible under a Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1603-DR-LA Katrina).

This proposed action would include developing an approximately 125-acre site with marsh terraces to restore wetlands and reclaim land (termed "Proposed Alexis Bay Marsh Terracing Facility") adjacent to and on the northeast side of the damaged facility. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft EA has been prepared to evaluate the action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. This Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

The public comment period will be 15 days – January 5, 2011 through January 23, 2012. Written comments on the draft EA or related matters can be faxed to FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office at (504) 762-3232; or mailed to FEMA Louisiana Recovery Office, 1 Seine Court, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114. The Draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm>. A public notice will be published for 5 days in the local newspaper, The Plaquemines News, announcing the availability of the draft EA for public review at the Plaquemines Parish Port Sulphur Library at 139 Delta Street, Port Sulphur, Louisiana (hours are 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 10:30 AM to 7:00PM Tuesday and Thursday).

Based on FEMA's findings to date, no significant adverse environmental effects are anticipated. However, if FEMA receives new information that results in a change from no adverse effects then FEMA would revise the findings and issue a second public notice allowing time for additional comments. However, if there are no changes, this Draft EA will become Final.

If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and associated Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.