



Environmental Services, Inc.

17 January 2011

Ms. Laurie N. Kiniry  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
US Department of Agriculture  
101 South Main  
Temple, Texas 76501-6624

**RE: Proposed Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 Project:  
Tyrrell Park Subdivision Drainage Improvements  
Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas  
HJN 090042 EA**

Dear Ms. Kiniry:

Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 (DD6) implements and maintains drainage projects throughout the Districts' 486 square mile area located in Jefferson County and includes the cities of Beaumont, Bevil Oaks, China and Nome, Texas. DD6 also works with other jurisdictions to identify flood-prone areas to encourage inclusion of flood-damage avoidance measures in land development. DD6 has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for grant funding to assist with drainage improvements in the Tyrrell Park Subdivision of Beaumont. The federal funding process requires compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This coordination letter is being provided for your agency's response in conformance with NEPA procedures.

The 131-acre watershed in the City of Beaumont, which is the subject of this grant application, experiences frequent structure flooding. The watershed is a developed subdivision known as the "Upper Ditch 200-B2 Watershed." The subdivision is known as Tyrrell Park and it lies in southern Beaumont, Texas. Some level of structure flooding occurs during rainfall events with a recurrence interval of five (5) years. The cause of the structure flooding is the fact that the finished floor elevations of the structures are right at natural ground elevation, and this natural ground is lower in many circumstances than the elevation of the outfall structures that drain to Willow Marsh Bayou. The flow rates generated by the run-off from the 131 acres causes head loss through the crossings and ditches, and causes floodwaters to enter the houses in the area.

The proposed drainage improvements include construction of two small detention basins (14 acre feet), increasing the size of a road crossing, and buyout of five (5) homes which are situated in the lowest elevations in the area and subject to repetitive flooding. The buyout area will be used for the detention basins. The net result of this effort will be a lower 100-year water surface in the area, and a significant reduction in flooding. By removing the lowest homes, the design water surface can be increased.

Maps depicting the proposed drainage improvements are attached. The proposed project is located within the FEMA 500-year floodplain (Zone X). The project will not impact wetlands or waters of the US. On-site photographs are also attached.

**CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS**

1507 South IH 35 ★ Austin, Texas 78741 ★ 512.328.2430 ★ Fax 512.328.1804 ★ [www.horizon-esi.com](http://www.horizon-esi.com)  
**Certified HUB/DBE/SBE**

Soils on the subject site include League Clay soils. The League soils are classified as prime farmland soils. However, since the project area has already been converted to urban uses, we have determined that the project would be exempt from the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA).

In accordance with NEPA and the FPPA, your concurrence with our determination of exempt status for the subject project is requested. Your prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated, as your response is necessary to complete the application process for Jefferson County DD6's grant from FEMA.

Please call me should you have any questions concerning this project or if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,  
For Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.



C. Lee Sherrod  
Vice President

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service

101 S. Main Street  
Temple, TX 76501-6624  
Phone: 254-742-9826  
FAX: 254-742-9859

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February 10, 2011

Horizon Environmental Services, Inc.  
1507 South IH35  
Austin, Texas 78741

Attention: Lee Sherrod, Vice President

Subject: LNU Farmland Protection  
Proposed Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 Project: Tyrrell  
Park Subdivision Drainage Improvements  
Jefferson County, Texas

We have reviewed the information provided concerning the Proposed Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 Project: Tyrrell Park Subdivision Drainage Improvements In Jefferson County, Texas, as outlined in your letter dated January 17, 2011. This review is part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) evaluation for FEMA. We have evaluated the proposed site as required by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA).

There may be Important Farmland Soils in the location of subject area but the work area is already converted to urban uses. The FPPA excludes from the definition of "Farmland" areas that are prior converted. We have completed an AD1006 indicating the exemption. We encourage the use of accepted erosion control methods during the construction of this project.

Please contact me if you have questions at (254) 742-9826; email: [micki.yoder@tx.usda.gov](mailto:micki.yoder@tx.usda.gov); Fax (254) 742-9859.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Micki Yoder".

Micki Yoder/NRCS

Enclosure

## FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

<b>PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>		Date Of Land Evaluation Request January 17, 2011			
Name of Project Proposed Jefferson County Drainage District No. 6 Project-Tyrrell Park subdivision Drainage Improvements		Federal Agency Involved FEMA			
Proposed Land Use		County and State Jefferson County, Texas			
<b>PART II (To be completed by NRCS)</b>		Date Request Received By NRCS January 21, 2011			
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? <i>(If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)</i>		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres:            %	Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres:            %			
Name of Land Evaluation System Used	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS February 10, 2011			
<b>PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>		Alternative Site Rating			
		Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly					
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly					
C. Total Acres In Site					
<b>PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information</b>					
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland					
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland					
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted					
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value					
<b>PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion</b> Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)					
<b>PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria</b> <i>(Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)</i>		<b>Maximum Points</b>	Site A	Site B	Site C
1. Area In Non-urban Use		(15)			
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use		(10)			
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed		(20)			
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government		(20)			
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area		(15)			
6. Distance To Urban Support Services		(15)			
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average		(10)			
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland		(10)			
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services		(5)			
10. On-Farm Investments		(20)			
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services		(10)			
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use		(10)			
<b>TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS</b>		<b>160</b>			
<b>PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>					
Relative Value Of Farmland <i>(From Part V)</i>		100			
Total Site Assessment <i>(From Part VI above or local site assessment)</i>		160			
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>		<b>260</b>			
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
Reason For Selection:					
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form:					Date: