



**FEMA**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
**Draft Environmental Assessment**  
**Replacement of Lewis County Fire District #13 Fire Substation (Station #2)**  
**DR-1734-Washington**

The Lewis County Fire District #13 (Fire District) applied, through the Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD), to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Public Assistance funding to relocate a fire substation that was damaged by flooding. The purpose of the Public Assistance program is to award financial grants to assist state and local governments, federally recognized Tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit entities with response and recovery from disasters.

During a December 2007 storm event, Fire Station #2 (a substation) was flooded when a debris jam at a bridge caused water from the South Fork Chehalis River to divert into the project area. The facility sustained such damage that the Lewis County Building Official condemned the structure. The proposed unmanned (volunteer) fire substation location is NW ¼ of Section 31, T13N, R3W, Willamette Meridian (Latitude 46.575457, Longitude -123.114016).

The proposed substation would be 1,512 square feet and have a paved access driveway off King Road (30 feet by 124 feet), parking area (20 feet by 30 feet) adjacent to the building, and apron (36 feet by 40 feet) in front of the building. The construction area would be graded. Staging would take place within the confines of the property lines. The substation would have a two-bay garage for an engine and water tender. By eliminating the restroom and laundry area, the need for a water supply and septic system was eliminated and cost of construction was reduced. Construction is expected to take approximately 129 days.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 1500 through 1508), and FEMA's implementing regulations (44 CFR 10.9), FEMA prepared a Draft EA to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives presented in the EA and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Alternatives evaluated in the EA include: (1) the No Action Alternative, and (2) the Preferred Alternative (which is the Proposed Action) toward which FEMA would contribute funding. Other alternatives were considered but not carried forward. The Preferred Alternative was selected because it avoids the floodplain and the potential for the structure to be affected by flooding. The Fire District conducted substantial public outreach regarding the project; therefore, the Draft EA was available for public comment for 15 days. FEMA received one comment on the Draft EA from the Lewis County Building Official expressing support for the project.

**CONDITIONS**

The following conditions apply, and failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of Federal funds:

1. The applicant shall obtain all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals prior to implementing the Proposed Action and comply with any and all conditions imposed.
2. Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders.
3. During ground disturbing activities, the applicant will monitor the ground disturbance, and if any potential archaeological resources are discovered, the applicant will immediately cease construction in the area and notify the State Historic Preservation Office and FEMA.

**FINDING**

Based upon the PA grant application and Final EA; and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10 for environmental consideration, including Executive Orders (EO) addressing floodplains (EO 11988), wetlands (EO 11990), and environmental justice (EO 12898), FEMA determined the proposed project will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.8) and the project as described in the PA grant application and Final EA may proceed.

**APPROVALS**



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4-20-12

Date