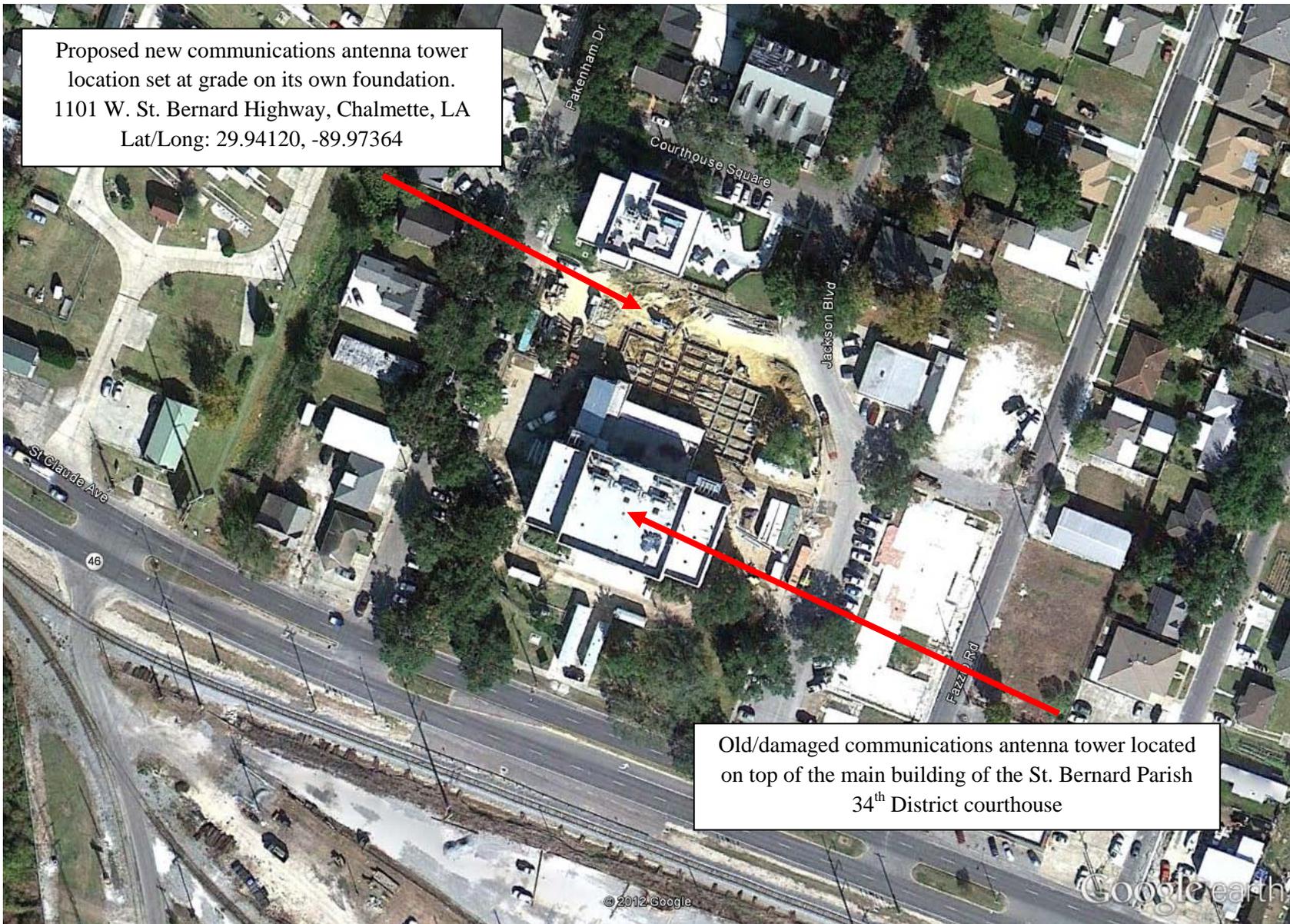


Appendix A
Site Plan



Proposed new communications antenna tower location set at grade on its own foundation.
1101 W. St. Bernard Highway, Chalmette, LA
Lat/Long: 29.94120, -89.97364

Old/damaged communications antenna tower located on top of the main building of the St. Bernard Parish 34th District courthouse

34th District Courthouse: Proposed Communications Antenna Tower Site Plan

Appendix B
Agency Correspondence

Tregle, Thomas

From: Tamara Mick [Mick.Tamara@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2012 02:08 PM
To: Tregle, Thomas
Subject: Re: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: 34th District Courthouse Change of Location New Communications Antenna Tower

Thomas - Based on the information provided and Relevant to the Clean Water Act 404(b)(1) Guidelines, EPA would have no objection to the proposed project. It appeared that no wetlands are within the proposed project area, however, if the area contained jurisdictional wetlands, the appropriate permits would have to be obtained prior to commencing construction. Thanks for the opportunity to review and comment.

Tamara Mick
US EPA Region
Wetlands Section (6WQ-EM)
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
214-665-7134

-----"Tregle, Thomas" <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov> wrote: -----

To: "beth.dixon@la.gov" <beth.dixon@la.gov>, "amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil" <amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil>, Tamara Mick/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, "cmichon@wlf.la.gov" <cmichon@wlf.la.gov>, "Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov" <Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov>, "Karl.morgan@la.gov" <Karl.morgan@la.gov>, "amy.trahan@fws.gov" <amy.trahan@fws.gov>
From: "Tregle, Thomas" <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov>
Date: 04/02/2012 10:40AM
Cc: "Borden, Adam" <Adam.Borden@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: 34th District Courthouse Change of Location New Communications Antenna Tower



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA-DR 1603/1607 LA

1 Seine Court

New Orleans, LA 70114

April 2, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster damaged, publicly owned facilities or certain private non-profit organizations.

On August 29, 2005 the Hurricane Katrina caused extensive damage to the communications antenna tower located on the roof of the St. Bernard Parish 34th District Courthouse. The applicant is proposing to construct a new communications antenna tower at ground level adjacent to the rear of the building. The proposed project location is within the boundaries of the courthouse and is currently being used for parking and/or storage. The new antenna tower is expected to be approximately 140-150ft high, and will sit on a 20ft x 20ft base foundation in a self-supporting configuration. At this time there are no proposed guy wires, emergency generators, or fuel tanks associated with the project.

To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable Federal regulations, we will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the construction of the communications tower in the rear grounds of the St. Bernard Parish 34th District Courthouse. To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

The attached figures show the location for a proposed project for which FEMA Public Assistance funding has been requested.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2323 emailed to thomas.tregle@fema.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Tommy Tregle, Environmental and Historical Preservation Department, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist at (504) 762-2413.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USFWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

Regards,

Tommy Tregle

Environmental Protection Specialist

DHS/FEMA

Louisiana Recovery Office

1 Seine Court, 4th Floor

New Orleans, La 70114

504-762-2413 (Desk)

504-908-5374 (Mobile)

[attachment "SBP_34th_Courthouse_Antenna_Tower_Fig_1_Location_Map.pdf" removed by Tamara Mick/R6/USEPA/US]

[attachment "SBP_34th_Courthouse_Antenna_Tower_Fig_2_Site_Map.pdf" removed by Tamara Mick/R6/USEPA/US]

Tregle, Thomas

From: Lisa Abernathy [lisa.abernathy@noaa.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2012 11:57
To: Tregle, Thomas
Subject: Re: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: 34th District Courthouse Change of Location New Communications Antenna Tower

Mr. Tregle,

I have reviewed the Solicitation of Views for the " 34th District Courthouse Change of Location New Communications Antenna Tower" project. This project is not located in an area supportive of marine fishery species, or categorized as essential fish habitat. As such, further coordination with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service is not necessary.

Thank you,

Lisa Abernathy
NMFS - Baton Rouge
225-389-0508 x209

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tregle, Thomas** <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov>
Date: Mon, Apr 2, 2012 at 10:41 AM
Subject: Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: 34th District Courthouse Change of Location New Communications Antenna Tower
To: "beth.dixon@la.gov" <beth.dixon@la.gov>, "amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil" <amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil>, "mick.tamara@epamail.epa.gov" <mick.tamara@epamail.epa.gov>, "cmichon@wlf.la.gov" <cmichon@wlf.la.gov>, "Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov" <Richard.Hartman@noaa.gov>, "Karl.morgan@la.gov" <Karl.morgan@la.gov>, "amy_trahan@fws.gov" <amy_trahan@fws.gov>
Cc: "Borden, Adam" <Adam.Borden@fema.dhs.gov>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA-DR 1603/1607 LA
1 Seine Court
New Orleans, LA 70114

April 2, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

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The attached figures show the location for a proposed project for which FEMA Public Assistance funding has been requested.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification.

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For questions regarding this matter, please contact Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist at (504) 762-2413.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USFWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

Regards,

Tommy Tregle

Environmental Protection Specialist

DHS/FEMA

Louisiana Recovery Office

1 Seine Court, 4th Floor

New Orleans, La 70114

504-762-2413 (Desk)

504-908-5374 (Mobile)

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR



SCOTT A. ANGELLE
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

04/04/2012

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA
1 SEINE CT., 4TH FLOOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70114

**RE: P20120437, Solicitation of Views
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA**

Description: Construct a new communications antenna tower at ground level adjacent to the rear of the 34th District Courthouse at 1101 W. St. Bernard Hwy. in Chalmette

Location: Lat 29° 56' 28.32"N / Long -89° 58' 25.1"W; 1101 W. St. Bernard Hwy. Chalmette, Saint Bernard Parish, LA

Dear Tommy Tregle:

You are hereby advised that your application for a Coastal Use Permit (CUP) has been determined to be complete and review by the State for compliance with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program (LCRP) and consistency with the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) has begun. Additionally, it has been determined that your proposed activity is a use of state concern in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 49:214.5.

All correspondence and calls regarding this application should reference the Coastal Use Permit Number (P#) indicated above. Please note that all information concerning your application is in our database and is updated throughout the day as changes to the status of the application occur. Your application can be found on our [Webpage](#).

Should you have any questions, please check the online database or contact the assigned permit analyst: Vickie Amedee at (225) 342-3781 or vickie.amedee@la.gov. Be sure to reference the above Coastal Use Permit Number.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Meltzer".

Permit Coordinator

CM

P20120437, Solicitation of Views
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA
04/04/2012
Page 2

cc: Pete Serio, COE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY - FEMA



"Tregle, Thomas"
 <Thomas.Tregle@fema.dhs.gov>
 ov>
 04/02/2012 10:40 AM

To "beth.dixon@la.gov" <beth.dixon@la.gov>,
 "amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil"
 <amy.e.powell.mvn02@army.mil>,
 cc "Borden, Adam" <Adam.Borden@fema.dhs.gov>

bcc

Subject Solicitation of Views - FEMA Project: 34th District
 Courthouse Change of Location New Communications
 Antenna Tower



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 Federal Emergency Management Agency
 FEMA-DR 1603/1607 LA
 1 Seine Court
 New Orleans, LA 70114

April 2, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster damaged, publicly owned facilities or certain private non-profit organizations.

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To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable Federal regulations, we will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to address the construction of the communications tower in the rear grounds of the St. Bernard Parish 34th District Courthouse. To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any

This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed,
 Will have no effect on those resources
 Is not likely to adversely affect those resources.
 This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

Deborah A. Fuller April 12, 2012

Acting Supervisor
 Louisiana Field Office
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date

formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

The attached figures show the location for a proposed project for which FEMA Public Assistance funding has been requested.

Please respond within 30 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2323 emailed to thomas.tregle@fema.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Tommy Tregle, Environmental and Historical Preservation Department, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Tommy Tregle, Environmental Protection Specialist at (504) 762-2413.

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, USFWS, USACE, LDWF, LDNR

Regards,

Tommy Tregle

Environmental Protection Specialist

DHS/FEMA

Louisiana Recovery Office

1 Seine Court, 4th Floor

New Orleans, La 70114

504-762-2413 (Desk)

504-908-5374 (Mobile)



SBP_34th_Courthouse_Antenna_Tower_Fig_1_Location_Map.pdf SBP_34th_Courthouse_Antenna_Tower_Fig_2_Site_Map.pdf



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

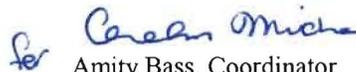
ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Date April 25, 2012
Name Tommy Tregle
Company FEMA
Street Address 1 Seine Court
City, State, Zip New Orleans, LA 70114
Project 34th District Courthouse Change of Location
New Communications Antenna Tower
Project ID 1802012
Invoice Number 12042507

Personnel of the Habitat Section of the Coastal & Non-Game Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project. After careful review of our database, no impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or federal parks, wildlife refuges, scenic streams, or wildlife management areas are known at the specified site within Louisiana's boundaries.

The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the LNHP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. Heritage reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. LNHP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time Heritage tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the LNHP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,


Amity Bass, Coordinator
Natural Heritage Program

Appendix C
Eight-Step Decision Making Process

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988 – FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

EIGHT-STEP DECISION MAKING PROCESS [EA]

Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management) requires federal Agencies “to avoid to the extent possible the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of the floodplain and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.” FEMA’s implementing regulations are at 24 CFR Part 9, which includes an Eight Step decision making process for compliance with this part.

This Eight Step Process is applied to the proposed St. Bernard Parish Port, Harbor & Terminal Warehouse Building. The proposed project area is within the 100-year floodplain. The steps in this decision making process is as follows.

Step 1: Determine if the Proposed Action is Located in the Base Floodplain

The St. Bernard Parish 34th District Courthouse Communication Tower involves the relocation/reconstruction of a communication tower, which is located within the 100 year floodplain. Proposed and original sites are located in an AE El. 8 per Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map Panel number 22087C0480D dated October 30, 2008 and located in the 3 ft. above Highest Existing Adjacent Grade per Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE) Map LA-CC34, dated 06/05/06. The floodplain in relation to the community and the proposed location for the St. Bernard Parish 34th District Courthouse Communication Tower are depicted on Figures 4 & 5 of the Environmental Assessment.

Step 2: Early Public Notice (Preliminary Notice)

In general, FEMA has an obligation to provide adequate information to enable the public to have impact on the decision outcome for all action having the potential to affect, adversely, or be affected by floodplains or wetlands that it proposes. FEMA shall provide the public with adequate information and opportunity for review and comment at the earliest possible time and throughout the decision-making process; and upon completion of this process, provide the public with an accounting of its final decision (see §9.12). A Cumulative Notice was published statewide 11/7/2005-11/9/2005 for FEMA’s Public Assistance Hurricane Katrina recovery actions located in the floodplain. In addition, a Public Notice was also published locally on 5/25/2012, announcing the availability of FEMA’s Environmental Assessment and 8 step decision making process for public review and comment.

Step 3: Identify and Evaluate Alternatives to Locating in the Base Floodplain.

The proposed building is located within the 100-year floodplain. It is the intention of St. Bernard Parish to relocate and reconstruct the 34th District Courthouse Communication Tower between the courthouse and the recently built jailhouse. The proposed action calls for replacement of the damaged communication tower in a new location within the grounds of the 34th District Courthouse. The proposed location of the new communications tower at ground level will allow for the additions of the necessary wireless communication upgrades to better serve the needs of

the various departments of the St. Bernard Parish Government. The original damaged communications tower has been removed from its previous location on the roof. The proposed communications tower will be consistent with the function and purpose of the damaged tower, with the added capacity of modern wireless communication technology. Relocation/reconstruction of the communications tower to its proposed location is not likely to have an adverse effect on floodplain elevations. Therefore, it will not be detrimental to floodplain functions and values.

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would entail no repair, reconstruction, or relocation of the communications tower. Consequently, the original damaged communications tower has been removed and would not be available for use by the command centers of various departments of the St. Bernard Parish Government. No Action would forego opportunities for reconstruction of, and recompense for, the damaged communications tower. This would have no impacts to the floodplain; however this is not a practicable alternative due to the safety hazard of forgoing local emergency communications.

Implementation of the 'reconstruction' alternative would reconstruct the damaged communications tower to the pre-disaster configuration, function, with increased capacity, in substantially the same footprint in order to restore and improve the community service as it existed prior to Hurricane Katrina. In order to support the increased weight of the replacement tower with the upgraded wireless communications components, this alternative would require a complete replacement or reinforcement of the roof of the 34th District St. Bernard Courthouse building. Restoring the tower to its original location on the roof of the 34th District Courthouse would have no impact to the floodplain; however it is not economically practicable for the applicant to replace the roof to support the tower along with equipment upgrades.

Step 4: Identify Impacts of Proposed Action Associated With Occupancy or Modification of the Floodplain.

Impact on Natural Function of the Floodplain/Impact of the Flood Water on the Proposed Facility

In compliance with FEMA policy implementing EO 11988, Floodplain Management, the proposed project was reviewed for possible impacts associated with occupancy or modification to a floodplain. The communication tower would not likely affect the functions and values of the 100-year floodplain as the structure would not impede or redirect flood flows. The proposed relocation/reconstruction of the communication tower will be located within neighborhoods among existing residential and recreational structures. Therefore, they will not likely have measurable effect on floodplain functions and values.

Step 5: Design or Modify the Proposed Action to Minimize Threats to Life and Property and Preserve its Natural and Beneficial Floodplain Values

New construction must be compliant with current codes and standards. St. Bernard Parish is required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator regarding floodplain permit(s)

prior to the start of any activities. All coordination pertaining to these activities and applicant compliance with any conditions should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files. As per 44 CFR 9.11 (d) (9), mitigation or minimization standards must be applied where possible. The replacement of building contents, materials and equipment (mechanical and electrical) should be, where possible, wet or dry-proofed, elevated, or relocated to or above the BFE.

Step 6: Re-evaluate the Proposed Action

The proposed project is not likely to have an adverse effect on the floodplain, and will not facilitate development in the floodplain to any greater degree than non-floodplain areas of the community. The proposed project is not likely to aggravate the current flood hazard because the facility is not likely to impede or redirect flood flows. The project is not likely to disrupt floodplain values because it is not likely to change water levels in the floodplain. Therefore, it is still practicable to construct the proposed project within the floodplain.

Alternatives consisting of locating the project outside the floodplain or taking “no action” are not practicable.

Step 7: Findings and Public Explanation (Final Notification)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Assessment (EA) has been drafted to determine if the relocation/reconstruction of the communication tower, as described, will have the potential for significant adverse effects on the quality of the human and natural environment. The results of the investigation are being used to make a decision whether to initiate preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement or to prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact. The availability of the Draft EA will be published May 25, 2012 in the local newspaper, The St. Bernard Voice, announcing the availability of the Draft EA & FONSI for public review at the St. Bernard Parish Public Library at 2600 Palmisano Boulevard, Chalmette, LA 70043-3666, (hours are 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Mon. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri. & Sat.). A 15 day comment period will begin on the date of publication.

After evaluating alternatives, including impacts and mitigation opportunities FEMA has determined that the proposed project is the most practicable alternative. The No Action Alternative would leave the buildings in a damaged and unsafe condition, which poses health and safety issues.

Step 8: Implement the Action

The proposed St. Bernard Parish 34th District Courthouse Communication Tower will be constructed in accordance with applicable floodplain development requirements.

Appendix D
Public Notice

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
REPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION
OF THE 34TH DISTRICT COURTHOUSE: COMMUNICATIONS
ANTENNA TOWER
ST. BERNARD PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed replacement and relocation of the 34th district courthouse communications antenna tower, located at 1101 West St. Bernard Highway, Chalmette, LA 70043. The St. Bernard Parish Government proposes to replace the damaged communications tower at ground level between the courthouse building and newly constructed jailhouse (latitude 29.94120; longitude: -89.97364). The new antenna would utilize upgraded wireless communication components and serve the same function as the damaged tower but with increased capacity. Project work would include excavating soils to a depth of about 5ft within a 16ft by 20ft area between the buildings, and driving a total of (9) 90ft long steel pipe piles. A steel reinforced concrete pad foundation would then be constructed to support a 3-beam steel communications tower to a height of 130ft.

St. Bernard Parish Government seeks Federal grant funds for this action, eligible for repairs or replacement under a Presidential Disaster Declaration signed on August 29, 2005 (FEMA-1603-DR-LA). 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. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternative site analysis, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action.

The Draft EA and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be available for public review at the St. Bernard Parish Library at 2900 Palmisano Boulevard, Chalmette, Louisiana 70043. Additionally, a public notice regarding the proposed action will be published for one day in the St. Bernard Voice: May 25, 2012. The comment period will be fifteen (15) days, beginning on May 25, 2012, and concluding on June 8, 2012. Written comments on the Draft EA or related matters can be faxed to FEMA's Louisiana Recovery Office at (504) 762-2323; or mailed to FEMA Louisiana Recovery Office, 1 Seine Court, New Orleans, Louisiana 70114. The Draft EA and Draft FONSI can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm>.

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.

If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and Draft 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.