

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Notice of Availability of the Draft Tiered Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (Draft SEA)
and Early Notice of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain
Proposed LOOP Security Command Center Expansion
Lafourche Parish, Louisiana
Port Security Grant Program
Project # 2009-PU-T9-K023 (04) (5637)**

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Greater Lafourche Port Commission has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Port Security Grant Program for funding to assist with the modification to the existing LOOP Security Command Center (SCC) including a 4,000 square foot expansion. The 4,000 square foot expansion will provide 8 offices, a 24-person conference area equipped with CCTV access providing response personnel the ability to establish an incident command structure to manage transportation security incidents, and a kitchen and eating area when engaged in long-term recovery efforts. The facility will also allow response personnel to share incident information with agency fusion centers during a transportation security incident that might occur at any of the LOOP Deepwater Port Complex facilities. The facility will be constructed within a hurricane protection levee system that has a new lift under construction that will raise the levee to 16 feet above mean sea level. In addition, the building will be constructed 3 feet above mean sea level, matching the existing height of the SCC.

A Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Grant Programs Directorate Programs was prepared and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued in July 2010, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing regulations of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), the National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of FEMA (44 CFR Parts 9 and 10). FEMA's environmental planning and historic preservation review concluded that all environmental areas of concern are appropriately accounted for in the PEA with the exception of floodplain impacts. A Draft Tiered Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been prepared in accordance with the July 2010 PEA to focus on Executive Order 11988 requirements and floodplain impacts of the proposed project.

The Draft SEA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences for the proposed action. The Draft SEA is available for comment and can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/environmental-documents-and-public-notices-in-region-vi>. A copy of the document can also be viewed at the Lafourche Parish Public Library, South Lafourche Branch, located at 16241 East Main Street, Cut Off, LA 70345 Monday through Thursday during the hours of 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM; and Friday and Saturday during the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

This notice also serves as the Early Public Notice for a Proposed Activity in the 100-Year Floodplain. This notice is provided pursuant to 44 CFR Part 9.12, (Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands), and FEMA's implementing regulation for Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, concerning FEMA's funding assistance for activities within and/or affect a floodplain. According to the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (Community Panel Number 2252020585C, with the effective date April 17, 1985), the proposed project site is location within Zone A16; define as areas of 100-year flood; base flood elevations and flood hazard factors determined).

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date of March 24, 2013. Written comments on the Draft SEA or the proposed work in the floodplain can be mailed or faxed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft SEA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

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