

Record of Environmental Consideration

REVISED FOR FEMA ENVIRONMENTAL -- LOUISIANA -- April 2007

See 44 Code of Federal Regulation Part 10

Project Name/Number: Point a la Hache Fire Substation/ PW 16255/ FIPS 075-99075-00

Applicant Name: Plaquemines Parish

Project Location: 13075 SR-15, Point a la Hache, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana 70040
(29.64173N, 89.93018W)

Project Description: Hurricane Katrina's high velocity winds, heavy rains, and storm surge caused extensive damages to the Point a la Hache substation. The facility is a single story pre-engineered metal steel building with metal side panels and a metal roof. It has a 14 foot eave height and a total of 560 square feet. To return this facility to pre-disaster condition the following items will be removed and replaced: metal paneling, insulation, floor and ceiling tile, doors, plumbing, air conditioner, water heater, fans, lights, panel board, and other electrical components. In addition this project has a Hazard Mitigation Proposal (HMP) to place the panel board in a water tight seal enclosure and elevate it and the receptacles five feet above the current location.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Determination

- Statutorily excluded from NEPA review (**Review Concluded**)
- Programmatic Categorical Exclusion - Category (Reference PCE in comments) (**Review Concluded**)
- Categorical Exclusion - Category
 - No Extraordinary Circumstances exist.
Are project conditions required? Yes (see section V) No (**Review Concluded**)
 - Extraordinary Circumstances exist (see Section IV).
 - Extraordinary Circumstances mitigated. (see Section IV comments)
Are project conditions required? Yes (see section V) No (**Review Concluded**)
- Environmental Assessment
- Supplemental Environmental Assessment (Reference EA or PEA in comments)
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Scope of work requires public involvement plan

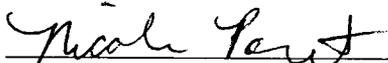
Comments: This project meets the definition of critical infrastructure (permanent police and fire stations) under the Alternative Arrangements for NEPA compliance.

- Project is Non-Compliant (see attached documentation justifying selection).

Reviewer and Approvals

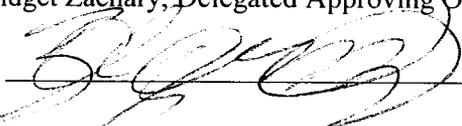
FEMA Environmental Reviewer:

Name: Nicole Poret, Environmental Specialist

Signature  Date 6/11/07

FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer or Delegated Approving Official:

Name: Bridget Zachary, Delegated Approving Official, FEMA LA TRO

Signature  Date 6-11-07

I. Compliance Review for Environmental Laws (other than NEPA)

A. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

- Not type of activity with potential to affect historic structures or archaeological resources **(Review Concluded)**
- Activity meets Programmatic Agreement, December 3, 2004. Appendix A: Allowance No.
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No
- Programmatic Agreement not applicable for historic structures or archeological sites, must conduct standard Section 106 Review (see below).
- Other Programmatic Agreement dated insert date of PA applies

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

- No historic properties that are listed or 45/50 years or older in project area. **(Review Concluded)**
- Building or structure listed or 45/50 years or older in project area and activity not exempt from review.
 - Determination of No Historic Properties Affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Determination of Historic Properties Affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
 - Property a National Historic Landmark and National Park Service was provided early notification during the consultation process. If not, explain in comments
 - No Adverse Effect Determination (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Adverse Effect Determination (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
 - Resolution of Adverse Effect completed (MOA on file)
Are project conditions required Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**

ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- Project scope of work has no potential to affect archeological resources **(Review Concluded)**
- Project affects only previously disturbed ground. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project affects undisturbed ground or grounds associated with an historic structure
 - Project area has no potential for presence of archeological resources
 - Determination of no historic properties affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file) **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project area has potential for presence of archeological resources
 - Determination of no historic properties affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Determination of historic properties affected
 - NR eligible resources not present (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - NR eligible resources present in project area (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
 - No Adverse Effect Determination (FEMA finding/ SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Adverse Effect Determination (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence on file)
 - Resolution of Adverse Effect completed (MOA on file)
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: The facility was built in 1988.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Nicole Poret, Environmental Specialist

B. Endangered Species Act

- No listed species and/or designated critical habitat present in areas affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action. **(Review Concluded)**
- Listed species and/or designated critical habitat present in the areas affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action.
 - No effect to species or designated critical habitat. (See comments for justification)
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - May affect, but not likely to adversely affect species or designated critical habitat (FEMA determination/USFWS/NMFS concurrence on file) **(Review Concluded)**
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Likely to adversely affect species or designated critical habitat
 - Formal consultation concluded. (Biological Assessment and Biological Opinion on file)
Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Endangered Species Summary for USFWS Consultation, letter to Don Fairley from USFWS dated September 15, 2005

C. Coastal Barrier Resources Act

- Project is not on or connected to CBRA Unit or Otherwise Protected Area **(Review Concluded)**.
 - Project is on or connected to CBRA Unit or Otherwise Protected Area. (FEMA determination/USFWS consultation on file)
 - Proposed action an exception under Section 3505.a.6 **(Review Concluded)**
 - Proposed action not excepted under Section 3505.a.6.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Coastal Barrier Resource System Maps referenced June 8, 2007.

D. Clean Water Act

- Project would not affect any waters of the U.S. **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project would affect waters, including wetlands, of the U.S.
 - Project exempted as in kind replacement or other exemption. **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project requires Section 404/401 of Clean Water Act or Section 9/10 of Rivers and Harbors Act permit, including qualification under Nationwide Permits.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**
- Project would affect waters of the U.S. by discharging to a surface water body.

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: USFWS National Wetlands Inventory map (<http://www.fws.gov/nwi/>) queried on June 8, 2007.

E. Coastal Zone Management Act

- Project is not located in a coastal zone area and does not affect a coastal zone area **(Review concluded)**
 - Project is located in a coastal zone area and/or affects the coastal zone
 - Project would disturb <1 acre, state administering agency does not require consistency review. **(Review Concluded)**.
 - Project triggers the Clean Water Act or could affect a waterway, state administering agency requires consistency review.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) has determined that receipt of federal assistance is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program. Projects within the coastal zone may still require a Coastal Use Permit or other authorization from LDNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting LDNR at 1-800-267-4019.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Coastal Zone maps queried June 8, 2007

F. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

- Project does not affect, control, or modify a waterway/body of water. **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project affects, controls or modifies a waterway/body of water.
 - Coordination with USFWS conducted
 - No Recommendations offered by USFWS. **(Review Concluded)**
 - Recommendations provided by USFWS.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Nicole Poret, Environmental Specialist

G. Clean Air Act

- Project will not result in permanent air emissions. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project is located in an attainment area. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project is located in a non-attainment area.
 - Coordination required with applicable state administering agency.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: EPA Region 6 Non-attainment Map, Nicole Poret, Environmental Specialist

H. Farmland Protection Policy Act

- Project will not affect undisturbed ground. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project has a zoning classification that is other than agricultural or is in an urbanized area. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project does not affect designated prime or unique farmland. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project causes unnecessary or irreversible conversion of designated prime or unique farmland.
 - Coordination with Natural Resources Conservation Service required.
 - Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, Form AD-1006, completed.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project is repair of a fire substation.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

I. Migratory Bird Treaty Act

- Project not located within a flyway zone **(Review Concluded)**
- Project located within a flyway zone.
 - Project does not have potential to take migratory birds **(Review Concluded)**
 - Are project conditions required? Yes (see section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project has potential to take migratory birds.
 - Contact made with USFWS
- Are project conditions required? YES (see section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: The site is an existing disturbed area with little value to migratory birds and would not be included in the USFWS migratory bird management program.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: USFWS guidance letter dated September 27, 2005.

J. Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

- Project not located in or near Essential Fish Habitat **(Review Concluded)**
- Project located in or near Essential Fish Habitat.
 - Project does not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat **(Review Concluded)**
 - Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project adversely affects Essential Fish Habitat (FEMA determination/USFWS/NMFS concurrence on file)
 - NOAA Fisheries provided no recommendation(s) **(Review Concluded)**
 - Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - NOAA Fisheries provided recommendation(s)
 - Written reply to NOAA Fisheries recommendations completed.
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project is not located in or near any surface waters with the potential to affect EFH species.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Nicole Poret, Environmental Specialist

K. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

- Project is not along and does not affect Wild or Scenic River (WSR) - **(Review Concluded)**
- Project is along or affects WSR
 - Project adversely affects WSR as determined by NPS/USFS. **FEMA cannot fund the action.** (NPS/USFS/USFWS/BLM consultation on file) **(Review Concluded)**
 - Project does not adversely affect WSR. (NPS/USFS/USFWS/BLM consultation on file)
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: National Wild and Scenic Rivers
<http://www.nps.gov/rivers/wildriversliSt.html>.

L. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

Comments: Unusable equipment, debris and material shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location. In the event significant items (or evidence thereof) are discovered during implementation of the project applicant shall handle, manage, and dispose of petroleum products, hazardous materials and/or toxic waste in accordance to the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Nicole Poret, Environmental Specialist

M. Other Relevant Laws and Environmental Regulations

Formosan Termite Initiative Act

In accordance with the Formosan Termite Initiative Act, (LA R.S. 3:3391.1 thru 3391.13) the Louisiana Parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis, Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington are under quarantine. The movement of wood or cellulose material, temporary housing or architectural components (e.g. beams, doors and other wood salvaged from a structure) may not leave the quarantined parishes without written authorization from the Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry or his designee(s).

II. Compliance Review for Executive Orders

A. E.O. 11988 - Floodplains

- No Effect on Floodplains/Flood levels and project outside Floodplain - **(Review Concluded)**
- Located in Floodplain or Effects on Floodplains/Flood levels
 - No adverse effect on floodplain and not adversely affected by the floodplain. **(Review Concluded)**,
Are project conditions required? Yes (see Section V) No **(Review Concluded)**
 - Beneficial Effect on Floodplain Occupancy/Values **(Review Concluded)**.
 - Possible adverse effects associated with investment in floodplain, occupancy or modification of floodplain environment
 - 8 Step Process Complete - documentation on file
Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**
 - A Final Public Notice is required

Comments: Plaquemines Parish enrolled in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) on 05/01/1985. Per Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel number 2201390170 B, dated 05/01/1985, project is located in zone B, area protected from the 100-yr flood by levee, dike or other structure subject to failure or overtopping during larger floods. Project is repair of building and replacement of components. As per 44 CFR 9.11, mitigation or minimization standards must be applied. Where possible, building contents, materials, components and equipment (mechanical or electrical) must be elevated to or above Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFE). Per ABFE maps, an ABFE for this area has yet to be established. Per Public Assistance guidance, the best available data is to be used for the minimum required elevation and can be found in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) from 1984. Adjustments to the elevation may change if determinations of final ABFE's are made for Plaquemines Parish. Per 44 CFR 9.12, applicant must publish a final public notice 15 days prior to the start of construction activities. Final public notice is to be forwarded to the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: A. C. Clark CFM, Floodplain

B. E.O. 11990 - Wetlands

- No Effects on Wetland(s) and/or project located outside Wetland(s) - **(Review Concluded)**
- Located in Wetland or effects Wetland(s)

- Beneficial Effect on Wetland - **(Review Concluded)**
- Possible adverse effect associated with constructing in or near wetland
 - Review completed as part of floodplain review
 - 8 Step Process Complete - documentation on file
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: USFWS NWI map accessed on-line June 8, 2007.

C. E.O. 12898 - Environmental Justice for Low Income and Minority Populations

- Project scope of work has no potential to adversely impact any population **(Review Concluded)**
- No Low income or minority population in, near or affected by the project based on information gathered from [add a reference] **(Review Concluded)**
- Low income or minority population in or near project area
 - No disproportionately high and adverse impact on low income or minority population **(Review Concluded)**
 - Disproportionately high or adverse effects on low income or minority population
- Are project conditions required? YES (see Section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Nicole Poret

III. Other Environmental Issues

Comments: Although this project qualifies for Alternative Arrangements under NEPA, a public involvement plan is not necessary.

Correspondence/Consultation/Reference: Email correspondence dated 6/11/2007 with Rick Kuss, FEMA NEPA coordinator

IV. Extraordinary Circumstances

Yes

- (i) Greater scope or size than normally experienced for a particular category of action
- (ii) Actions with a high level of public controversy
- (iii) Potential for degradation, even though slight, of already existing poor environmental conditions;
- (iv) Employment of unproven technology with potential adverse effects or actions involving unique or unknown environmental risks;
- (v) Presence of endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat, or archaeological, cultural, historical or other protected resources;
- (vi) Presence of hazardous or toxic substances at levels which exceed Federal, state or local regulations or standards requiring action or attention;
- (vii) Actions with the potential to affect special status areas adversely or other critical resources such as wetlands, coastal zones, wildlife refuge and wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers;
- (viii) Potential for adverse effects on health or safety; and
- (ix) Potential to violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
- (x) Potential for significant cumulative impact when the proposed action is combined with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions, even though the impacts of the proposed action may not be significant by themselves.

Comments:

V. Environmental Review Project Conditions

Project Conditions:

1. This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) has determined that receipt of federal assistance is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program. Projects within the coastal zone may still require a Coastal Use Permit or other authorization from LDNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting LDNR at 1-800-267-4019.
2. Unusable equipment, debris and material shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location. In the event significant items (or evidence thereof) are discovered during implementation of the project applicant shall handle, manage, and dispose of petroleum products, hazardous materials and/or toxic waste in accordance to the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.
3. In accordance with the Formosan Termite Initiative Act, (LA R.S. 3:3391.1 thru 3391.13) the Louisiana Parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis, Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington are under quarantine. The movement of wood or cellulose material, temporary housing or architectural components (e.g. beams, doors and other wood salvaged from a structure) may not leave the quarantined parishes without written authorization from the Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry or his designee(s).
4. As per 44 CFR 9.11, mitigation or minimization standards must be applied. Where possible, building contents, materials, components and equipment (mechanical or electrical) must be elevated to or above Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFE). Per ABFE maps, an ABFE for this area has yet to be established. Per Public Assistance guidance, the best available data is to be used for the minimum required elevation and can be found in the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) from 1984. Adjustments to the elevation may change if determinations of final ABFE's are made for Plaquemines Parish. Per 44 CFR 9.12, applicant must publish a final public notice 15 days prior to the start of construction activities. Final public notice is to be forwarded to the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.