



FEMA

August 30, 2006

Johnny Gonzales
GOHSEP PAO
FEMA-1603-DR-LA
415 N. 15th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

RE: Alternative Arrangements, Reconstruction of Critical Infrastructure in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area, Salmen High School Replacement Buildings, Saint Tammany School Board, PW#: 13373, DR-1603-LA, PA ID: 103-UH910-00

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Public Assistance project for Salmen High School Replacement Buildings, 4040 Berkley Street, Slidell, LA 70458, 30.24887N, 89.79022W, qualifies for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Alternative Arrangements for the Reconstruction of Critical Infrastructure in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area.

Under the regular Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) NEPA review process; this project would have qualified for categorical exclusion in accordance with 44 CFR Part 10.8(d)(2)(xv). However, due to the unprecedented number of grants requested that need to be processed in a short time, the potential cumulative effects, and potential environmentally-related socio-economic effects of FEMA's funding in the New Orleans Metropolitan Area, FEMA has determined that this type of action may have significant impacts that cannot be reviewed under the normal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. FEMA, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) have adopted the Alternative Arrangements to address the basic elements of NEPA under these circumstances. For more information visit www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/noma/index.shtm.

While the use of Alternative Arrangements meets NEPA compliance requirements, there are requirements of other Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) laws and executive orders that must be individually complied with. For the work described in this Project Worksheet (PW) the following conditions relating to those requirements apply:

- In the event historically or archaeologically significant materials or sites (or evidence thereof) are discovered during the implementation of the project, the project shall be halted and all reasonable measures taken to avoid or minimize harm to property until such time as FEMA, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), determines appropriate measures have been taken to ensure that the project is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

Please note that this transmittal is a notification that this project has been cleared under NEPA only. **This is not a notice of final approval or eligibility.** Any change beyond the approved scope of work for this project will require additional environmental review by FEMA.

Sincerely,



Howard R. Bush
Howard R. Bush
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA

Enclosures: PW #13373

Cc: Oliver Mack, FEMA DPAO for Grants