

Record of Environmental Consideration

See 44 Code of Federal Regulation Part 10.

Project Name/Number: Slidell Municipal Auditorium Sign

Project Location: 2056 2nd Street, Slidell, Louisiana 70458

Project Description: This project includes: Demolition and removal of existing Slidell Municipal Auditorium Light-emitting diode (LED) Electronic Message Center Sign damaged by Hurricane Katrina storm surge and resulting flood waters, and the installation of a new LED sign. Existing sign is to be removed from the existing concrete slab, and new leg sections will be fabricated to house two steel support poles. Poles will be anchored via direct burial into sub-grade concrete foundation. The elevation of this site is seven feet. This elevation will place the sign above the Advisory Base Flood Elevation (ABFE). ABFE for this site as per ABFE map panel MM40 is ten feet. The sign elevation places the sign above this elevation.

Documentation Requirements

- No Documentation Required (**Review Concluded**)
- (Short version) All consultation and agreements implemented to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act, Endangered Species Act, and Executive Orders 11988, 11990 and 12898 are completed and no other laws apply. (**Review Concluded**)
- (Long version) All applicable laws and executive orders were reviewed. Additional information for compliance is attached to this REC.

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

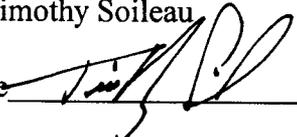
Comments: Project is consistent with Alternative Arrangements for NEPA Compliance.

Reviewer and Approvals

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

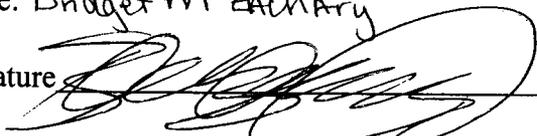
FEMA Environmental Reviewer.

Name: Timothy Soileau

Signature  Date 1-19-07

FEMA Regional Environmental Officer or delegated approving official.

Name: Bridget M Zachary

Signature  Date 1-19-07

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

A. National Historic Preservation Act

- Not type of activity with potential to affect historic properties. **(Review Concluded)**
- Applicable executed Programmatic Agreement December 3, 2004 Otherwise, conduct standard Section 106 review.
 - Activity meets Programmatic Allowance # Appendix A Section I A and D
 - Are project conditions required? Yes (see section V) No **(Review Concluded)**

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 affects only previously disturbed ground. **(Review Concluded)**
- Project affects undisturbed ground.
 - Project area has no potential for presence of archeological resources
 - Determination of no historic properties affected (FEMA finding/SHPO/THPO concurrence or consultation 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: If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) or human remains are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their public assistance (PA) contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA historic preservation staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA historic preservation staff has completed consultation with the SHPO. In addition, if unmarked graves are present, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (r.s. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Unmarked Burial Sites Board (call the Louisiana Division of Archeology at 225-342-8170) within seventy-two hours of the discovery. Failure to comply with these stipulations may jeopardize receipt of FEMA funding. If this scope of work and/or the footprint/location of the new building changes, this project will need to be resubmitted for further section 106 review prior to ground disturbing activities taking place outside of the pre-disaster footprint of the building.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Dana Linck, Historic Preservation Specialist/Archeologist

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 and letter to Don Fairley 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: Project is outside of CBRA protected areas.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Coastal Barrier Resource System Maps referenced January 11, 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/or Section 9/10 (Rivers and Harbors Act) permit, including qualification under Nationwide Permits.

Are project conditions required? YES (see section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project will not affect waters of the U.S.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

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

State administering agency does not require consistency review. **(Review Concluded)**.

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. LA DNR has determined that receipt of federal assistance is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resource Program.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Louisiana Coastal Zone Maps referenced January 11, 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: Project does not affect any water bodies.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

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: Project will result in only temporary and negligible air emissions.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: EPA Region 6 Non-attainment Map.

H. Farmland Protection Policy Act

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 Resource Conservation Commission required.

Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, Form AD-1006, completed.

Are project conditions required? YES (see section V) NO **(Review Concluded)**

Comments: Project takes place in previously developed area.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/> referenced January 11, 2007.

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: Project will not take any migratory birds.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

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

Correspondence/Consultation/References : Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

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> referenced January 11, 2007

L. Other Relevant Laws and Environmental Regulations

Formosan Termite Initiative Act

Comments: 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).

Correspondence: Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

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)**

Comments: The city of Slidell is enrolled in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), as of 12/16/1980. Site is located within an "AE" zone, area of 100-year flooding, base flood elevation determined, as per Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel number 220204 0010C, dated 4/21/1999. Project is replacement of Slidell Auditorium sign. Per the attached mitigation proposal, the sign is to be elevated above the advisory base flood elevation (ABFE). These actions are not likely to have any affect on the floodplain.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Kara Knott, CFM, Panel Number 220204 0010C dated 4/21/1999.

B. E.O. 11990 - Wetlands

- No Effects on Wetland(s) and 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: Elevation of the sign will not affect wetlands.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

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

- No Low income or minority population in, near or affected by the project - **(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: Elevation of the sign will not affect low income or minority populations.

Correspondence/Consultation/References: Damage description and scope of work from Project Worksheet 14912.

III. Other Environmental Issues

Identify other potential environmental concerns in the comment box not clearly falling under a law or executive order (see environmental concerns scoping checklist for guidance).

Comments:

Correspondence/Consultation/References:

IV. Extraordinary Circumstances

Based on the review of compliance with other environmental laws and Executive Orders, and in consideration of other environmental factors, review the project for extraordinary circumstances.

* A "Yes" under any circumstance may require an Environmental Assessment (EA) with the exception of (ii) which should be applied in conjunction with controversy on an environmental issue. If the circumstance can be mitigated, please explain in comments. If no, leave blank.

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) If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) or human remains are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their public assistance (PA) contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA historic preservation staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA historic preservation staff has completed consultation with the SHPO. In addition, if unmarked graves are present, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (r.s. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Unmarked Burial Sites Board (call the Louisiana Division of Archeology at 225-342-8170) within seventy-two hours of the discovery. Failure to comply with these stipulations may jeopardize receipt of FEMA funding. If this scope of work and/or the footprint/location of the new building changes, this project will need to be resubmitted for further section 106 review prior to ground disturbing activities taking place outside of the pre-disaster footprint of the building.
- 2) This project is located within the Louisiana Coastal Management Zone. LA DNR 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 DNR. Projects may be coordinated by contacting LA DNR at 1-800-267-4019.
- 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) 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.
- 5) Removal and disposal of debris containing household hazardous waste and certain categories of liquid wastes must be performed in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, executive orders and guidelines. LAC Title 33 Part VII requires that specified items, including lead acid batteries, used oil filters, used motor oil, scrap tires, CFCs (refrigerants), radioactive waste or regulated infectious wastes must be segregated from and excluded from non-hazardous debris collection, staging, processing and disposal sites. Failure to comply with applicable legal requirements in debris collection and/or disposal operations will jeopardize federal funding. The clean-up or restoration/repair of sites damaged as a result of such operations are ineligible for federal funding. Previously obligated funding is subject to de-obligation if a determination of ineligibility is made. Applicants managing debris staging, processing, burning or disposal sites (other than previously permitted landfills) that have been permitted by LDEQ must also complete an emergency debris management site certification form (self certification) regarding compliance with all applicable substantive laws and executive orders.