

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Elm Avenue Diversion Project
City of Delano,
Wright County, Minnesota
FEMA-DR-1419-MN

The City of Delano, Minnesota has applied for funding from the Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) for assistance with the implementation of drainage improvements in eastern/northeastern portion of the City. These improvements should reduce on-going, drainage-related problems due to major rain events in these sections of the City and, reduce the impacts of future flood events. The City of Delano is located in Wright County, in east-central Minnesota. The Proposed Action would provide flood protection through installation of storm sewer piping and larger outlet structures. DHS/FEMA is proposing to provide assistance for this project through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

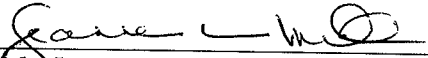
In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for FEMA, Subpart B – Agency Implementing Procedures, Part 10.9, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the President’s Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). The purpose of the EA was to analyze the potential environmental impacts for improvements to the City of Delano’s drainage infrastructure, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Based upon the conditions and information contained in the EA for the City of Delano, Elm Avenue Diversion project (August 2005) and in accordance with FEMA’s regulations in 44 CFR Part 10 (Environmental Considerations) and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice), the following is concluded:

A Finding of No Significant Impact. The proposed project, as described in the EA, will not result in any significant adverse impacts to existing land use, water resources (surface water, groundwater, wetlands, waters of the United States, and floodplains), air quality, noise, biological resources (vegetation, fish and wildlife, state and federally listed threatened or endangered species, and critical habitats), safety issues, hazardous materials and waste, and cultural resources, or result in disproportionately high or adverse effects on minority or low-income populations. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

This Finding of No Significant Impact is based upon the conditions contained in the EA and the requirement that final project designs will be completed and permits obtained from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in accordance with Part 7001 of the Minnesota Rules, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize federal funds.

APPROVAL



Ms. Jeanne Millin
Regional Environmental Officer
DHS/FEMA, Region V

Date: June 1, 2006