

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**Temporary Housing for Disaster Victims of Hurricane Katrina**  
**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the Individual Assistance Program to provide disaster housing assistance for persons displaced from their primary residences until alternative housing is available. Housing assistance may be administered in several forms including temporary housing and rental assistance. Hurricane Katrina devastated the State of Mississippi, leaving many residents without homes. Due to the degree of devastation throughout the state and the scarcity of unoccupied, habitable housing units, immediate action is needed to provide temporary housing for Hurricane Katrina disaster victims whose homes are uninhabitable.

FEMA proposes four alternative actions to meet the need for temporary housing in Mississippi: (1) procurement or lease of unoccupied habitable dwellings for displaced residents or the provision of financial support to displaced residents for rental housing; (2) procurement of structurally sound buildings and retrofitting these buildings for residential use by displaced residents; (3) establishing mobile homes, travel trailers, or other pre-fabricated dwellings on property that has been previously developed; and (4) establishing mobile homes, travel trailers, or other pre-fabricated dwellings on undeveloped property and installing necessary infrastructure.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA has prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Temporary Housing in the State of Mississippi for FEMA-DR-1604-MS (September 2005) to evaluate the impacts of the four alternative actions on the human environment. The PEA also analyzes the impacts of taking no action, in compliance with NEPA. The PEA is available online at <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs> or by contacting the undersigned at (601) 965-2483. FEMA has prepared this PEA to streamline compliance with NEPA and to expedite the provision of temporary housing to displaced persons. FEMA will apply the PEA to the alternative actions described above throughout the State of Mississippi. For actions with impacts not described in the PEA or for action-specific considerations that require additional analysis, as suggested by the PEA, FEMA will prepare a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) that tiers from the PEA. The PEA, and SEAs as appropriate, will provide the required NEPA clearance. They will also provide, along with appropriate consultations, a means for FEMA to address compliance with other Federal environmental laws and regulations, including the Endangered Species Act and National Historic Preservation Act.

Based upon the information contained in the PEA, the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts resulting from implementation of the alternative actions, 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 (FONSI). Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process will not be required based on the fact that there will be no long-term adverse direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the natural environment resulting from FEMA actions, as identified in the PEA, taken to establish temporary housing. This FONSI is based upon the proposed action fitting one of the alternatives described in the PEA and meeting all conditions prescribed for that particular alternative. In those instances where the proposed action does not conform to the described alternative actions or to all the conditions, an SEA and corresponding FONSI would be prepared to address the differences.

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Alessandro Amaglio Date  
Environmental Liaison Officer, FEMA-DR-1604-MS