

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Construction of Emergency Operations Center Columbiana County, Lisbon, Ohio

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency has applied for funding from the Department of Homeland Security/ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance with construction of a new emergency operations center (EOC) within Columbiana County to improve the County's ability to coordinate emergency response operations. The County's current EOC are located within the downtown area of Lisbon, Ohio. The proposed action will provide the County with a modern, expanded facility.

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 the construction of the new EOC 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 construction of an emergency operations center (April 2006) 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 Environmental Assessment. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize federal funds.

APPROVAL:

Ms. Jeanne Millin
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA, Region V

Date: _____