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FEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
KIOWA COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
GREENSBURG, KIOWA COUNTY, KANSAS
FEMA-1699-DR-KS

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for replacement of the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital. FEMA was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1699-DR-KS) to provide Federal disaster assistance to Greensburg, Kiowa County, Kansas, as a result of damages incurred on May 4, 2007. Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5206, as amended (Stafford Act, Public Law 93-288). The proposed project is to replace and upgrade the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital Facility in response to a devastating tornado that struck Greensburg, Kiowa County, Kansas, on May 4, 2007. Currently, Kiowa County Memorial Hospital operates out of an inadequate temporary facility located on Highway 54. Kiowa County Memorial Hospital is the only medical facility located within Kiowa County and it also provides ambulance service to the community. The new Kiowa County Memorial Hospital would encompass all of the 5 separate facilities of the destroyed hospital, which include the Hospital, Clinic, Boiler Plant, Storage Building, and Ambulance Garage. Approximately 10.61 acres of land would need to be purchased for the construction of the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital. A portion of the site could also be used for a new County Fire Station. The exact amount is yet to be confirmed. Utility services including water, sewer, power, and telephone exist at the site. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a DEA was written to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The DEA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action. The public comment period will be from May 14 to June 13, 2008. Written comments on the DEA can be faxed to FEMA's Regional Office in Kansas City, Missouri at (816) 283-7018. The DEA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm>. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. Then this DEA will be moved to the archives page at http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives_index.shtm