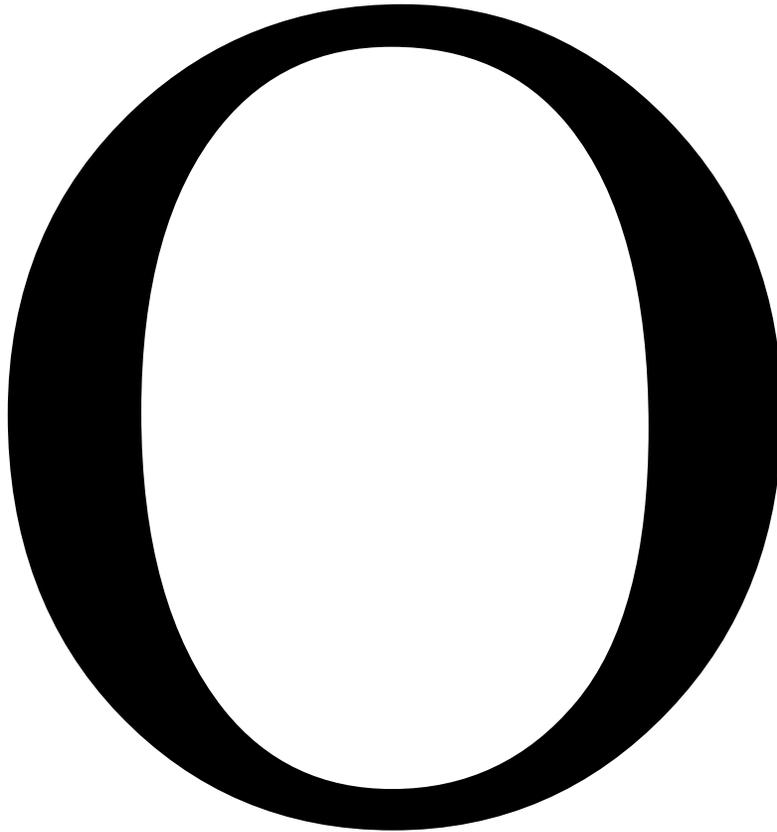


APPENDIX



Guidelines for FONSI Format and Content

Federal Emergency Management Agency

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

XYZ Drainage Project

Applicant name or Some City, Some County, Some State

Program (HMGP or PA) DR-XXX-SS

DATE

BACKGROUND (Heading Not Required)

[Brief description of the nature of the disaster and the resulting need for action – some of the text from the purpose and need section in the EA could be used here.] Pursuant to the [section 406 or section 404] of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, as amended, the [applicant] has requested [Public Assistance funding or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding assistance] from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [add any other Federal agencies involved in funding] [for or to] [project name or nature].

[Paragraph (or whatever is needed) to describe the project]. (This should not be in great detail but should include all the elements of the action so it is clear what the action encompasses the description from the proposed action section of the EA is often suitable to be used here).

[Briefly describe any potentially significant issues the EA addressed, such as endangered species, wetlands, floodplains, minority or low income populations, significant controversy, etc. (this is one of the places where required mitigation can be described.) Give reasons the issues identified were determined to be not significant.]

FINDING (heading not required)

[If, in addition to the EA, other significant sources of information were used i.e. endangered species consultations, historic preservation consultation or MOA, state or local environment documents, public meetings, prior environmental documentation, etc., as a basis for the finding, they should be referenced here. Likewise, if the EA was developed jointly with the state to meet their environmental requirements, it should be mentioned here.]

(If there is any mitigation required in the EA there are three ways to incorporate mitigation measures into the FONSI: 1) if it is just a few items, list them as part of the above project description or in the finding paragraph; 2) if there are a lot, list them on an attachment to the FONSI and reference the attachment in the finding paragraph or; 3) if they are easily located or listed in the EA; a reference to the mitigation described in the EA can be used. In any case the language must make the finding dependent on implementation of the mitigation measures.)

Guidelines for FONSI Format and Content

Based on the attached environmental assessment and other above described sources and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA's regulations (44 CFR, Part 10) for environmental considerations, and Executive Orders addressing floodplains, (EO 11988), wetlands (EO 11990), and environmental justice (EO 12898), it is found that the proposed action [with prescribed mitigation measures (if required)] will have no significant impact on the human environment. As a result of this Finding of No Significant Impact, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared and the proposed project [with associated mitigation measures] as described in the attached environmental assessment may proceed.

(If consultations are not complete or if other federal permits have not yet been obtained, the fact that the initiation of the project is contingent of completion of these actions and the meeting of any resulting stipulations should be stated.).

Recommended:

(Optional)

Regional Environmental Officer Date

Regional Director Date

Approved:

Environmental Officer Date

Office of General Counsel Date

Sample FONSI Format and Content

Federal Emergency Management Agency

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Stormwater Drainage Project

Town of Chester, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-1234-PA

October 15, 1995

BACKGROUND

In May of 1995 torrential rains from a 25-year storm caused extensive flooding over a three county area of north central Pennsylvania. That Presidentially declared disaster overwhelmed the town of Chester's stormwater system and severely damaged homes and business. To reduce the potential of similar damage from future occurrences and pursuant to section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 as amended, the Town of Chester has requested Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to increase the capacity of the town's stormwater drainage system.

The town of Chester proposed to enlarge and realign four existing culverts under the highway 74 between Grant and Main Streets to reduce the threat of flooding in the Gables subdivision and the Highlands business district. In addition, to reduce the overland inflow to this area and the Ponds apartment complex three 500 foot interceptor drainage ditches and a 2,800 foot outflow drainage canal are proposed which will be located on municipal recreation and woodland property on the north side of town. The drainage canal will flow into Patton Lake which will serve as a temporary flood retention facility.

The assessment of the proposed project included an Endangered Species Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the Palliated Woodpecker and a determination that a project specific 404 permit will be required from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). In addition, a minority population was identified in the housing project adjacent to the Ponds complex. The resulting mitigation and stipulations upon which this finding is conditional are: 1) Construction of a canal must occur between September and February to avoid disturbance of the Palliated Woodpecker nesting season; 2) interceptor ditch number 3 is to be extended an additional 200 feet in order to give the same order of protection to the Waterside housing project as to the Ponds complex in consideration of environmental justice required in EO 12898; 3) the drainage canal is to be aligned as required by the State Office of Environmental Resources so as to avoid impacting the three designated wetland areas in the northwest corner of the woodland property; and 4) the USACE 404 permit must be obtained and any stipulations defined therein must be implemented.

Sample FONSI Format and Content

Based on the attached environmental assessment and other above described sources and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FEMA's regulations (44 CFR Part 10) for environmental consideration, and Executive Orders addressing floodplains (EO 11988), wetlands (EO 11990) and environmental justice (EO 12898), it is found that the proposed action with the prescribed mitigation measures will have no significant adverse impact on the human environment. As a result of this Finding of No Significant Impact, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared and the proposed project and associated mitigation measures as described in the attached environmental assessment may proceed.

Recommended:

(Optional)

Regional Environmental Officer Date

Regional Director Date

Approved:

Environmental Officer Date

Office of General Counsel Date