



FEMA

Deaconess Hospital Earthquake-Resistant Supply Well

Evansville, IN - Evansville is considered earthquake country. The Deaconess Hospital in Evansville has implemented an earthquake mitigation program for the facility, which opened in 1892. The program included installing an emergency fresh water well, water treatment facilities, and necessary piping. The hospital is one of the three in the City, with 358 beds, a family practice center and a family practice residency program.

The hospital is being pro-active in earthquake mitigation and building to higher standards. The water well was built to exceed local seismic codes and supplied by an emergency generation system. Specifically, the well was built to meet United Building Code Seismic Zone 3, although the area of the hospital is rated as a seismic zone 2A. The well is part of the ongoing effort to upgrade the hospital's existing emergency operation system and supplements the hospital's heating and cooling system.

The hospital itself was not altered since the well is in the middle of an asphalt parking lot adjacent to the hospital's energy center. In addition, no land use or infrastructure system capacity is altered. As of November 1, 1998, the well has been installed, all the emergency water lines have been installed throughout the hospital, and piping into the energy center is progressing. Construction was completed by the end of January 1999.

With the help of generators, the seismic-resistant well enables the hospital to operate independently of the City of Evansville utility system, which could be disabled in the event of an earthquake. This pro-active mitigation measure contributes to community recovery after an earthquake by assuring that the City has an operational emergency care facility.



**Vanderburgh County,
Indiana**



Quick Facts

Sector:

Public

Cost:

\$200,000.00 (Estimated)

Primary Activity/Project:

Utility Protective Measures

Primary Funding:

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)