

## **COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

#### **MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

June 17, 2016

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs  
101 South Broad Street  
PO Box 800  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0800

This Notice is related to Federal assistance provided in response to the Presidentially-declared disaster, Superstorm Sandy. This notice shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) on behalf of the Responsible Entity, the Economic Development Authority (EDA).

Per 24 CFR 58.33, the combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI-RROF) will be published simultaneously with the submission of the RROF. The funds are needed on an emergency basis due to a declared disaster from the impacts of Superstorm Sandy, which made landfall on October 29, 2012. As a result, the comment periods for the FONSI and NOI-RROF have been combined. Commenters may submit comments to DCA and objections to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to ensure they will receive full consideration.

#### **REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about July 4, 2016, the DCA, on behalf of the EDA, will submit a request to HUD for the release of Federal funds under New Jersey's second Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) pursuant to the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) for the New Jersey Energy Resilience Bank (ERB) Program (ERB). DCA expects to fund the project using approximately \$7,500,000 of ERB funds.

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Application ID number: ERB723851

Project Title: Rehabilitation and Improvements to an Existing Medical Facility

Location: 254 Easton Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

The total estimated project cost is \$8,488,480.

The proposed project involves the installation of a two megawatt natural gas fired reciprocating engine that will be interconnected to the electrical distribution within the facility. The engine will be located in the existing outdoor switchgear yard at the rear of the hospital adjacent to the facilities boiler room and electrical destitution center. Additional work includes but is not limited

to improvements and upgraded connections to the existing electrical, plumbing, and HVAC systems. The proposed project will reduce the amount of electricity that St. Peters University Hospital must purchase from the utility in addition to providing the facility with a way to black start in the event of a power failure. Thermal outputs from the engine will be used to make domestic hot water and re-heat water throughout the facility. In addition to providing St. Peters University Hospital with energy resiliency in the event of a disaster, the proposed project would also have the benefit of reducing the carbon footprint for this facility.

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The DCA has determined that this project will have no significant impacts on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Sandy Recovery Division, 101 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800. The record is available for review and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. or can be viewed online at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on this project may submit written comments to Laura Shea, Assistant Commissioner, Sandy Recovery Division, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, PO Box 800, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800 or online at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/> and to Tennille Smith Parker, DRS, Acting Division Director, HUD, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20410. All comments received by July 4, 2016, or fifteen (15) days from the actual date of publication, whichever is later, will be considered by DCA. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

DCA certifies to HUD that Charles A. Richman, in his capacity as Commissioner of DCA consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and related laws and authorities, and allows DCA to use CDBG-DR funds.

## OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and DCA's certification for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of DCA; (b) DCA has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed

funds or incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency, acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504, has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58.76) and shall be addressed to Tennille Smith Parker, DRS, Acting Division Director, HUD, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20410. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Commissioner Charles A. Richman  
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs