

**EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED
ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

August 21, 2014:

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups & Individuals

This is to give notice that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on behalf of the Responsible Entity, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA), has determined that the following proposed actions under the Landlord Rental Repair Program (LRRP). Because the project is located in the 100-year floodplain, NJDEP will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the actions in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed actions, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The LRRP will restore or create a variety of rentals from "1 to 4 unit" buildings to large multi-family housing developments. More than 70% of rental properties in the most impacted areas have less than 20 units. Often, this rental type is provided by a homeowner that has an extra unit that contributes rental income to the owner, or by landlords with fewer than 25 properties. The rental repair program will provide zero interest forgivable loans to existing and new owners of rental properties with 1 to 25 units requiring significant rehabilitation.

Proposed LRRP Project Number SRP0037053: The elevation of the two structures located at 1108 Barnegat Avenue, Seaside Heights, Ocean County, and the rehabilitation of four of the five units which the two structures comprise. The entire 0.12-acre parcel in which the project is located is within Special Flood Hazard Area "A" Zone, 100- year floodplain, as shown on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Panel 329 of 611, Map Number 34029C0329F, revised September 29, 2006.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public education tool. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by NJDCA on or before September 6, 2014. NJDCA encourages electronic submittal of comments at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>. In the alternative, comments may be submitted on paper to: Stacy Bonaffons, Assistant Commissioner, Sandy Recovery Division, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, 101 South Broad Street, PO Box 800, Trenton, NJ 08625-0800 by September 6, 2014. The Notice can be viewed at NJDCA during the hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Further information can be found on the Department's web site at <http://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/sandyrecovery/review/>.

Bob Martin, Commissioner, NJDEP