

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE 03-SSC-01**

**National Environmental Policy Act; Finding of No Significant Impact; NASA First Response Facility**

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

**ACTION:** Finding of No Significant Impact

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and NASA's policy and procedures (14 CFR Subpart 1216.3), NASA has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the proposed construction and operation of the NASA First Response Facility. The Facility would be used for consolidation of the John C. Stennis Space Center (SSC) fire department, medical clinic, security operations, emergency operations and the energy management and control center. This new facility is needed in order to co-locate emergency response units and facilitate emergency communications and planning.

**DATE:** Comments in response to this notice must be received in writing by NASA no later than February 25, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Anne H. Peek, NASA Environmental Officer, Code RA02, Building 1100, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529-6000. The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the NASA First Response Facility that supports this FONSI may be reviewed at:

Maury Oceanographic Library, Building 1003, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529

Hancock County Library, Highway 90, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

Margaret Reed Crosby Library, Picayune, MS 39466

St. Tammany Parish Library, Slidell, LA 70458

NASA Headquarters, Library, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546

A limited number of copies of the EA are available by contacting Anne H. Peek, NASA Environmental Officer, at the address and/or telephone number herein indicated.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Anne H. Peek, NASA Environmental Officer, Code RA02, Building 1100, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529-6000; Telephone (228) 688-2004

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NASA has determined that the EA for the construction and operation of the NASA First Response Facility represents an accurate and adequate analysis of the scope and level of associated environmental impacts. The EA is incorporated by reference in this FONSI.

NASA plans to construct a 4,082 square meter (43,940 square foot) First Response Facility at the John C. Stennis Space Center on the northeast corner of Saturn Drive and Trent Lott Boulevard. The facility would be used for consolidation of the SSC fire department, medical clinic, security operations, emergency operations and the energy management and control center. This new facility is needed in order to co-locate emergency response units and facilitate emergency communications and planning. Alternatives considered early in the planning process were (1) to refurbish existing used spaces and (2) to locate the First Response Facility at a more eastern site than the proposed location. The "No Action Alternative" provides the benchmark against which the proposed action is evaluated.

Environmental impacts for this project include air emissions, wetlands disturbance, solid waste generation and storm water control. This project would require a Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality storm water permit for construction, a wetlands disturbance authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Vicksburg District, and a revision to the SSC Title V Permit to Operate Air Emissions Equipment. Other aspects that require consideration are energy conservation, water conservation, native plant landscaping, and the purchase of materials under comprehensive procurement guidelines for using materials with recycled content.

This project would not alter the architecture or historic attributes of the facility and would not affect the property from a cultural resource standpoint. The proposed project site would not be located in floodplains. No threatened or endangered species or critical habitats will be affected by the project. No other matters of potential environmental concern have been identified. On the basis of the EA and underlying reference documents, NASA has determined that the environmental impacts associated with this project will not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the environment; therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required.



T. Q. Donaldson V, RDML USN (Ret)  
Director

15 Jan 04

Date