U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

APR 11 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mark Johnston, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs Programs, DN

THROUGH: Valerie G. Piper, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, DE

FROM: Jackie L. Williams, Ph.D., Director, Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development, DED

SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impact under the National Environmental Policy Act – Appalachia Economic Development Initiative Notice of Funding Availability for FY2014 (FR-5800-N-19)

It is the finding of this office that the attached funding Notice (FR-5800-N-19) does not constitute a major Federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the human environment and therefore does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

The purpose of the Appalachia Economic Development Initiative (AEDI) is to increase capacity among local rural nonprofits serving, through State community and/or economic development agencies, Appalachia Distressed Counties, for lending and investing activities in affordable housing, small business and community facilities, and for securing additional sources of public and private capital for these activities. Funded activities may include the provision of direct financial assistance to homeowners or developers of for sale or rental housing and organizations providing community facilities. This can be in the form of default reserves, pooling/securitization mechanisms, loans or investments grants in conjunction with loans or investments, the funding of existing individual development accounts in conjunction with loans or investments, or similar activities. Some, but not all, of the eligible activities will be covered by Categorical Exclusions not subject to the Federal laws and authorities such as 24 CFR 50.19(b) (1), (2), (3), (12), (13), (14), (15), and (16). Each activity will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of environmental review, and HUD will perform the appropriate level of review under 24 CFR part 50.

Individual project sites to be funded by awards under this program may not be known at the time the individual grant agreements are awarded and also may not be known when some of the individual sub-grants are made. Therefore, in accordance with 24 CFR 50.3(h), the application shall contain

assurances to HUD that the applicant will: 1) supply HUD with all available, relevant information necessary for HUD to perform for each property any environmental review required by 24 CFR part 50; 2) carry out mitigating measures required by HUD or select alternate eligible property; and 3) not acquire, rehabilitate, convert, lease, repair, demolish or construct property, nor commit or expend HUD or local funds for these program activities with respect to any eligible property, until HUD approval of the property is received.

Accordingly, the publication of this Notice is deemed not to be a major Federal action having a significant impact on the human environment.

Attachment

Concurrences:

Danielle L. Schopp
Director, Director, Office of Environment and Energy
Office of Environment and Energy

4/11/2014
Date

Christopher Hartenau
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of General Counsel

5/5/14
Date

Approval:

Clifford Taffet
Assistant Secretary (Acting) *

5/7/14
Date

* Replaced Mark Johnston (retired) on May 5, 2014