




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

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR  
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

OCT 10 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR: Neal J. Rackleff, Assistant Secretary for CPD, D

FROM:   
Lori Michalski, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations, DO

SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impact under the National Environmental Policy Act —Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Fiscal Year 2018: Rural Capacity Building Program Grants (FR-6200-N-08)

It is the finding of the Office of Community Planning and Development's (CPD) Office of Policy Development and Coordination (OPDC) that the attached funding notice (FR-6200-N-08) 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 funding made available through this Rural Capacity Building Program NOFA is authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141, approved on March 23, 2018). Eligible recipients are non-profit National Organizations that have experience within the past 10 years conducting capacity building activities with eligible beneficiaries (rural housing development organizations, Community Development Corporations (CDCs), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), local governments, and Indian tribes), that serve rural areas, in at least seven of the federal regions described on the HUD website. Grants will be available for loans, grants or other financial assistance, as well as training, education, support, and advice to enhance the technical and administrative capabilities of eligible beneficiaries to carry out community development and affordable housing activities that benefit low- and moderate-income families and persons; and such other activities as may be determined by the recipient organizations in consultation with HUD.

OPDC finds that the RCB NOFA does not have a significant impact on the human environment for two reasons. First, most of the activities funded by the program consist of training, education, advice, technical support, financial assistance to carry out economic development activities and operating expenses and therefore have no significant physical impact on the environment and are categorically excluded from review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and related authorities under 24 CFR 50.19(b)(1), (2), (9), (13) and (14).

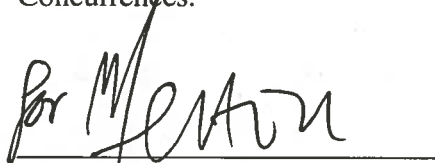
Second, individual projects to be funded by these grants may not be known at the time the HUD grants are awarded and also may not be known when the subgrants are awarded. Selection for funding does not constitute approval of individual project sites. After award, any physical activities funded by the program described in this NOFA will undergo individual HUD environmental review in accordance with 24 CFR Part 50 and their potential impacts will be addressed more accurately and appropriately at the time they are considered. Therefore, in accordance with 24 CFR 50.3(h), the applications and the grant agreements for this program must provide that no commitment or

expenditure for physical activities or property acquisition may be made until HUD has completed an environmental review to the extent required under applicable regulations and has given notification of its approval under 24 CFR 50.3(h).

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:



Lauren McNamara  
CPD Program Environmental Clearance Officer

10/12/18  
Date



Danielle Schopp  
Departmental Environmental Clearance Officer

10/12/18  
Date



Christopher Hartenau  
Environmental Clearance Officer  
Office of General Counsel

10/11/18  
Date

Approval:



Neal J. Rackleff  
Assistant Secretary  
Community Planning and Development

10/15/18  
Date

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Internal HUD Distribution:						
Identification Lines: FY 2018 RCB NOFA FONSI						
Correspondence Code	Originator DOP	Concurrence D OP	Concurrence DC	Concurrence	Concurrence	Concurrence
Name	D. Schmutzler	S. Washington	L. Michalski			
Date	10/10/18	10/10/18	10/10/18			