MEMORANDUM FOR:  The Deputy Secretary

THROUGH:  Henry Hensley, Acting Director
Office of Strategic Planning and Management

SUBJECT:  Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) under the National Environmental Policy Act for Issuance of HUD’s General Section to HUD’s FY 2017 NOFAs for Discretionary Programs (FR-6100-N-01)

It is the finding of the Office Strategic Planning and Management that the attached General Section to the Department’s FY 2017 NOFAs for Discretionary Funding 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.

HUD plans to publish NOFAs for its various competitive programs as they are approved for publication. HUD is publishing the General Section for the Department’s FY 2017 NOFAs in advance of the individual NOFAs so that potential applicants can become familiar with the Department’s strategic goals, threshold requirements, and other requirements before the release of the program-specific NOFAs. The General Section does not itself provide for any funding, but contains the general policy requirements that apply to all HUD programs for which individual FY 2017 NOFAs will be published. The environmental impact of each individual NOFA that is not categorically excluded from such review will be considered in a separate environmental assessment.

The General Section includes application procedures and instructions, threshold requirements, additional nondiscrimination and other requirements, and a description of the application review and selection process, including HUD’s strategic goals and standard rating factors (which are tailored for individual NOFAs). The General Section includes an Environmental Requirements section that advises recipients that they are generally prohibited from acquiring, rehabilitatating, converting, demolishing, leasing, repairing or constructing property, or committing or expending HUD or non-HUD funds for these activities, until HUD has completed an environmental review, including an historic properties review, in accordance with 24 CFR part 50 or, for programs subject to 24 CFR part 58, until HUD has approved a Request for Release of Funds following a Responsible Entity’s completion of an environmental review. The General Section also advises applicants to consult the individual program NOFA for more specific procedures applicable to that program. Thus, the environmental effects of
For the reasons stated above, the Office of Strategic Planning and Management finds that publication of the attached General Section to the Department’s FY 2017 program NOFAs does not have the potential for significant impact on the human environment.

Attachment: General Section to HUD’s Fiscal Year 2017 Notice[s] of Funding Availability

Concurrences:

Christopher H. Hartenau, Environmental Clearance Officer, Office of General Counsel, CAGDB

Danelle Schopp, Environmental Clearance Officer, Office of Environment and Energy, DGED

Approval:

Nani A. Coloretti, Deputy Secretary