

## **Attachment 13A**

### **Explanatory Note for Department of State Report August 2, 2010**

Attached is the Department of State ARRA-NEPA Report for the period ending June 30, 2010. This report reflects updates to our previous submittal from March 31, 2010, which are highlighted below:

- The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Hard Skills Training Center (Row #2 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet) remains in a pending status. This action has been pending for more than one report. On June 28, 2010, GSA and the Department announced that the preferred site in Queen Anne's County, Maryland was no longer being considered. All activities related to the acquisition and development of the preferred site have ceased.
- Our previous report included one new ARRA project, a segment of the Rio Grande Flood Control Rectification project (Paisano to International Dam). International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) has determined that this section of the rectification project will not be accomplished with ARRA funds after all. Furthermore, there are many issues still pending that will preclude advancing on the EA. The spreadsheet reflects these changes and the project has been listed as withdrawn this quarter. (Row #17 on Page 2 of the spreadsheet)

#### NEPA Benefits:

Row 7-16: The IBWC will be able to accomplish a large percentage of needed levee raising and structural rehabilitation work to ensure the levees provide adequate protection and meet the standards established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Rio Grande Flood Control System projects will 1) Enhance protection of lives and property of over 3 million U.S. border residents. 2) Achieve FEMA certification standards, negating the need for residents to buy costly flood insurance.

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