Attachment 10A

Explanatory Note for Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Report February 1, 2010

Enclosed is the quarterly report on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Section 1609 activities, pertaining to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through December 31, 2009. This quarter's report includes information on all of the HUD ARRA programs that have begun or completed their environmental compliance reviews. They are presented below and in this report, as they appear in the ARRA legislation:

- The Community Development Fund includes the Community Development Block Grant, Recovery Act, the Indian Community Development Program, Recovery Act and the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, Recovery Act.
- Lead Hazard Reduction, Recovery Act contains the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, Recovery Act.
- Homelessness Prevention Fund, Recovery Act contains the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re- Housing Program.
- The Home Investment Partnership Program contains the Tax Credit Assistance Program.
- Project Based Rental Assistance, Recovery Act. Please note that the Office of Management and Budget has identified Project Based Rental Assistance recipients as exempt from Section 1512 reporting, based on the judgment that those funds are considered "payments to individuals."
- The Public Housing Capital Fund contains the Public Housing Capital Fund, Recovery Act.
- Green Retrofit, Recovery Act contains the Section 8, 202 and 811 Programs Green Retrofit Program. Please note that the Green Retrofit, Recovery Act has no entries in this report because, as of 12/31/09, projects selected for possible funding from a program competition had not yet begun their environmental compliance reviews.
- The Native American Housing Block Grant, Recovery Act contains the Native American Housing Block Grant, Recovery Program, both competitive and formula, and the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, Recovery Act programs.

In the third reporting period, HUD developed and implemented a computerized information reporting system entitled Recovery Act Management Performance System (RAMPS) to collect ARRA Section 1609 compliance information for all HUD ARRA funded projects. Implementation issues with RAMPS have arisen, as one might expect of a new information system designed to include reporting by over 6,000 grantees on tens of thousands of projects. This quarter's report includes new information made available as many these implementation issues have been overcome. For instance, HUD has reported 2,798 additional NEPA actions since the last report. HUD continues to use and improve RAMPS to collect compliance information for all HUD ARRA funded projects. The RAMPS system has proven to be a valuable asset for gathering and reporting the information included in this quarter's report. Accordingly, HUD is beginning immediate work on further RAMPS improvements to strengthen future reports.

RAMPS currently allows HUD to identify and report on environmental compliance reviews that have been pending for more than one complete reporting period (see Attachment 10B). Of the 1,019 NEPA pending actions, HUD is reporting that 640 actions have been pending since the previous reporting period. HUD is working so that information on these pending actions will be available in a future report.

Benefits:

The following are examples of projects where benefits have been provided as a result of NEPA actions administered by HUD:

HUD Region VII **Kansas City Office**
Project Name: Palestine Commons Senior Living Facility
Project Location: Kansas City, MO
Project Sponsor: City of Kansas City, MO

Project Description: The project involves the construction of 69-units of elderly housing in a three-story structure at 3425 Prospect Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri. The ARRA funding consists of Community Development Block Grant funds ($750,000) from the City of Kansas City, Missouri, and Tax Credit Assistance Program funds ($1,947,026) from the Missouri Housing Development Commission. The NEPA review process helped ensure that soil and groundwater contamination will be remediated to state cleanup levels and that all units will be constructed to the Energy Star performance standard. This will likely be one of the largest multi-family buildings in the Kansas City metropolitan area to meet Energy Star requirements. See HUD Spreadsheet page 2, row 721.

HUD Region X **Seattle Office**
Project Name: Snohomish Multi-family Rental Housing
Project Location: Marysville, Washington
Project Sponsor: Snohomish County Housing Authority

Project Description: The Snohomish County Housing Authority received $992,000 Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds and $3.3 million in Public Housing Recovery Act Capitol Funds to construct 19 units of multi-family housing in Marysville, Washington. The site is directly adjacent to Interstate 5, which is the main interstate highway on the West Coast. As part of the environmental review, Snohomish County, acting as responsible entity, conducted a noise assessment and determined that the noise at the site is at 72.5 DNL. This falls within HUD's normally unacceptable range for new housing – a level of less than 65 decibels is considered acceptable. HUD Region X environmental officers worked extensively with Snohomish County to help correctly calculate the noise, and to determine appropriate mitigation measures for the housing and an on-site tot lot. Mitigation for the housing will incorporate the best sound-attenuation construction technologies for windows, walls, and ceilings. Mitigating noise for the tot lot was achieved by altering the site plan and re-arranging building footprints to block sound transmission in the tot lot area, which was moved and provided shielding by buildings around it. By creatively applying HUD standards in the planning phase of the

project, noise impacts to this project will be minimized. See HUD Spreadsheet page 2, row 7342.

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