

## **Attachment 10A**

### **Explanatory Note for Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Report November 2, 2009**

Enclosed is the report on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) Section 1609 activities, pertaining to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

This 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.
- Homeless Prevention Fund, Recovery Act contains the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re- Housing Program.
- The Home Investment Partnership Program contains the Tax Credit Assistance Program.
- Project Based Rental Assistance, Recovery Act.
- 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. (Note, the Green Retrofit, Recovery Act has no entries in this report because, as of 9/30/09, 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.

Since last quarter's submission, HUD reports that it has developed and implemented a computerized information reporting system entitled Recovery Act Management Performance System (RAMPS) that is used to collect ARRA Section 1609 compliance information for all HUD ARRA funded projects.

Some RAMPS implementation issues have arisen, as one might expect of a new information system designed to include reporting by over 6,000 grantees on over tens of thousands of projects. While the complete scope and scale of the RAMPS implementation issues encountered is not known at this time, it appears that ease of grantee RAMPS registration and access to RAMPS are among the primary concerns at this time.

Never the less, HUD reports that the RAMPS system has proven to be a valuable asset for gathering and reporting the information needed for this quarter's report. Accordingly, HUD is

beginning immediate work on further RAMPS improvements to strengthen the next quarter's report.

It should be noted that the RAMPS system is designed to feed directly into the CEQ spreadsheet format for reporting the status of environmental compliance reviews for all HUD ARRA assisted activities and projects as called for in ARRA §1609(c). This includes reporting if the environmental review is pending, completed, or withdrawn.

HUD is currently considering improving the RAMPS system to include two possible upgrades. The first would be for RAMPS to report how many ARRA reporting periods a NEPA review was noted as pending. The second RAMPS enhancement would allow RAMPS to report the status of a NEPA action at any point in time. Currently, RAMPS must pull information that includes information submitted as of the date the information is pulled.

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