

Public Notice for Revised Alabama Statewide Programmatic Agreement

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is revising its Alabama Statewide Programmatic Agreement executed pursuant to the [National Historic Preservation Act](#) (NHPA).¹ NHPA Section 106² and its implementing regulations³ require Federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings on historic properties prior to approving the expenditure of any Federal funds on the undertaking, and also to consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other stakeholders regarding these effects.

FEMA has fulfilled its NHPA responsibilities relating to its disaster assistance programs in Alabama through a Statewide Programmatic Agreement⁴ executed in 2013. This agreement has governed FEMA's consideration of historic preservation concerns and facilitates the streamlined review of the numerous federally-funded projects resulting from an emergency or major disaster declared by the President pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.⁵

The revised Alabama Statewide Programmatic Agreement is based on the Prototype Programmatic Agreement (PPA) developed by FEMA in consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.⁶ The PPA provides FEMA with a consistent approach to Section 106 reviews for projects across the nation. The Alabama Statewide Programmatic Agreement will encompass Section 106 reviews for FEMA's Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, and Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs, and will address the effects of its actions on properties that are eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including districts, archaeological sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The Alabama Statewide Programmatic Agreement also allows FEMA to coordinate Section 106 reviews with its evaluation of the proposed action's potential for significant impacts to the human and natural environment as required by the National Environmental Policy Act.⁷

FEMA requests your comments on the revised Alabama Statewide Programmatic Agreement. Please provide comments to FEMA by November 15, 2019.

¹ Public Law 89-665, as amended, codified at Title 54 of the United States Code (U.S.C.), Subtitle III, Division A.

² 54 U.S.C. § 306108.

³ Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), [Part 800](#). See also the ACHP publication, "[Protecting Historic Properties: A Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review](#),"

⁴ See 36 C.F.R. § 800.14(b).

⁵ Public Law 93-288, as amended, codified at 42 U.S.C. chapter 68.

⁶ See [PPA text](#) online. See also the [ACHP letter](#) of December 17, 2013, designating the FEMA PPA and the ACHP [synopsis](#) of the FEMA PPA.

⁷ See U.S. Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023-01, *Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act* (October 31, 2014); FEMA Directive 108-1, *Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Responsibilities and Program Requirements* (October 10, 2018).

Comments can be posted at:

Emailed to the FEMA Region IV EHP mailbox:
FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov

Or mailed to:
FEMA Region IV
Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta GA 30341