INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FINDING OF EXEMPTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS RELATED TO DISASTERS AND IMMINENT THREAT

This form is for activities to address community emergency conditions threatening the public health and safety that exists in the area and requires immediate resolution. The situation must be one that has occurred within the past 90 days. CDBG funded activities may not go beyond what is necessary to alleviate the emergency conditions.

NOTIFY CDBG OF PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Send the project description and a notification of intent to pursue CDBG funds under this exemption to alison.anderson@ded.mo.gov, kimberly.stuefer@ded.mo.gov, daniel.engler@ded.mo.gov, and mary.rajek@ded.mo.gov, prior to completing this packet.

For assistance, call the MO CDBG Environmental Review Specialist at (573) 526-1490 or call MO CDBG’s main staff line at (573) 751-3600.

Refer to the CDBG Policy – ‘Exemptions Related to Disasters and Imminent Threat’ when completing this form.

WHEN THIS PACKET IS COMPLETE, SEND THE SIGNED FORM AND DOCUMENTATION TO alison.anderson@ded.mo.gov AND kimberly.stuefer@ded.mo.gov AND IMPLEMENT PROJECT ACTIVITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

The Responsible Entity may apply for CDBG reimbursement of expended funds if project activities are completed in accordance with the requirements on the form and below.

24 CFR 58.34(a)(10) Exemptions for Improvements Related to Disasters and Imminent Threats

(a) Except for the applicable requirements of Section 58.6, the responsible entity does not have to comply with the requirements of this part or undertake any environmental review consultation, or other action under NEPA and the other provisions of law or authorities cited in Sec. 58.5 for the activities exempt by this section or projects consisting solely of the following exempt activities:

(10) Assistance for temporary or permanent improvements that do not alter environmental conditions and are limited to protection, repair, or restoration activities necessary only to control or arrest the effects from disasters or imminent threats to public safety including those resulting from physical deterioration.

In order to qualify for an exemption under 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10), the responsible entity must document that the project meets the following 3 conditions BEFORE BEGINNING PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

1. The activities "do not alter environmental conditions" including any of the following: The activity does not:

(i) affect significant elements of properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, either per consultation with the SHPO or per a determination under 36 CFR 800.3(a)(i) that the undertaking is a type of activity that does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties assuming that historic properties are present;
(ii) replace, either through rebuilding or major rehabilitation, structures within a floodplain (SFHA) as determined by the most recent FEMA maps or FIRM that would require additional elevation or other changes;
(iii) involve an inappropriate occupancy of a known hazardous site or of a site contiguous to a known hazardous site;
(iv) involve work on sites that could adversely impact the known critical habitat of endangered species; or
(v) alter a building’s footprint.
2. The activities are "limited to protection, repair, or restoration activities necessary to control or arrest the effects": The activity does not:

   (i) change the footprint or create new development or ground disturbance;
   (ii) include new additions, relocation, or enlargements in size or capacity;
   (iii) change the primary use or density of occupancy; and,
   (iv) involve changes in land use from residential to non-residential or commercial to industrial or from one industrial use to another;

The activity includes work that (i) provides temporary protection from further damage to a building or that makes permanent repairs to a damaged building or (ii) is for restoration of essential community services and related utilities and facilities to their condition prior to the disaster without significant change in size or capacity.

3. The activities are necessary “only to control or arrest the effects from disaster or imminent threats to public safety including those resulting from physical deterioration”. An imminent threat to public safety is a threat to the general public outside the building who may be harmed by the collapse of the building. Condemnation for occupancy of a building is inadequate to demonstrate an imminent threat to public safety because it does not demonstrate a harm to the public outside of the building. Documentation shall be made showing the responsible entity followed their process to declare a local disaster or emergency, or document the connection to a state or federally declared disaster.

24 CFR 58.6 Other requirements.

In addition to the duties under the laws and authorities specified in §58.5 for assumption by the responsible entity under the laws cited in § 58.1(b), the responsible entity must comply with the following requirements. Applicability of the following requirements does not trigger the certification and release of funds procedure under this part or preclude exemption of an activity under §58.34(a)(12) and/or the applicability of §58.35(b). However, the responsible entity remains responsible for addressing the following requirements in its ERR and meeting these requirements, where applicable, regardless of whether the activity is exempt under §58.34 or categorically excluded under §58.35(a) or (b).

(a)

(1) Under the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4001-4128), Federal financial assistance for acquisition and construction purposes (including rehabilitation) may not be used in an area identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as having special flood hazards, unless:

   (i) The community in which the area is situated is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (see 44 CFR parts 59 through 79), or less than one year has passed since the FEMA notification regarding such hazards; and

   (ii) Where the community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program, flood insurance protection is to be obtained as a condition of the approval of financial assistance to the property owner.

(2) Where the community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program and the recipient provides financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes (including rehabilitation) for property located in an area identified by FEMA as having special flood hazards, the responsible entity is responsible for assuring that flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program is obtained and maintained.
(3) Paragraph (a) of this section does not apply to Federal formula grants made to a State.

(4) Flood insurance requirements cannot be fulfilled by self-insurance except as authorized by law for assistance to state-owned projects within states approved by the Federal Insurance Administrator consistent with 44 CFR 75.11.

(b) Under section 582 of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994, 42 U.S.C. 5154a, HUD disaster assistance that is made available in a special flood hazard area may not be used to make a payment (including any loan assistance payment) to a person for repair, replacement or restoration for flood damage to any personal, residential or commercial property if:

(1) The person had previously received Federal flood disaster assistance conditioned on obtaining and maintaining flood insurance; and

(2) The person failed to obtain and maintain flood insurance.

(c) Pursuant to the Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 3501), HUD assistance may not be used for most activities proposed in the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

(d) In all cases involving HUD assistance, subsidy, or insurance for the purchase or sale of an existing property that will be frequently used or occupied by people in a Runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone, as defined in 24 CFR part 51, the responsible entity shall advise the buyer, providing written notice with the buyer signing a statement of acknowledging receipt. It shall be specified that the property is in a runway clear zone or clear zone, what the implications of such a location are, informing the buyer of the potential hazards from airplane accidents and that there is a possibility that the property may, at a later date, be acquired by the airport operator as part of an airport expansion project.

Instructions for completing the worksheet:

**Project Description**: The project description must include all related activities designed to accomplish a specific objective, regardless of funding source. The project description must clearly illustrate how the disaster or imminent threat necessitates that project activities are implemented immediately.

**ALL PROJECT ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THOSE NOT FUNDED BY CDBG, MUST BE INCLUDED TO QUALIFY THE PROJECT FOR CDBG FUNDS.**

**Project Name**: The project should be appropriately named by the Responsible Entity.

**Responsible Entity**: The Responsible Entity is the name of the City or County assuming responsibility for the project and environmental review.

**Project Location**: A street address or description of general location of the project must be in this box.

**CDBG Project #:** If the project has been funded by CDBG, the assigned project number must be here. If the project has not yet been funded by CDBG, leave this blank.

**Question 1**: To be eligible for a disaster-related exemption under 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10), the locally declared disaster or emergency, or state or federal disaster must have been recently declared and project activities must be necessary to control or arrest its effects.

**Question 2**: To be eligible for an imminent threat-related exemption under 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10), there must be an imminent threat to the safety of the general public. Imminent threats to public safety may be the result of physical
deterioration and do not need to be the result of a declared disaster to qualify for an exemption under 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10). Condemnation for occupancy of a building is inadequate to demonstrate an imminent threat to public safety if it does not demonstrate a harm to the public outside of the building.

**Question 3**: To be eligible for an exemption under 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10), the project activities may not include new additions, relocation, or enlargements, or changes to the primary use or density of occupancy. Project activities may not alter a building’s footprint.

In the case of partially collapsed or unsafe buildings posing a threat to public safety: project activities may remove dangerous debris and secure the remaining structure.

**DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AN EXEMPTION UNDER 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10).**

**Question 4**: Project activities must include work that provides temporary protection from further damage to a building or that makes permanent repairs to a damaged building or restoration of essential community services and related utilities and facilities to their condition prior to the disaster without significant change in size or capacity.

**Question 5**: Use information from correspondence with the SHPO to determine if the project activities could affect historic properties.

**Question 6**: Use information from FEMA’s floodplain map (FIRM) to determine if the project is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area. See the floodplain map instructions below for more information.

**Question 7**: Use information from DNR’s Map of Hazardous Substance Investigation and EPA’s Map of Regulated Facilities to determine if the project site or contiguous sites are hazardous. Project activities may not involve an inappropriate occupancy of a known hazardous site or of a site contiguous to a known hazardous site.

**Question 8**: Use information in USFWS’s IPAC report or email consultation with Fish and Wildlife Service to determine if any known critical habitat of endangered species is present in the project area and could be adversely affected by project activities.

**Question 9**: Use the National Plan of Integrated Airport System (NPIAS) listing to determine if any airports near the project site are considered a civilian airport or a military airport, shown as ‘P’ and ‘CS’. Create a map on the CARES website or Google maps showing the site is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or within 2,500 feet of a civilian airport.

**Question 10**: There are no Coastal Barrier Resource Areas (CBRAs) in Missouri according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office for Coastal Management. Print the listing of States and Territories Working on Ocean and Coastal Management.

**Question 11**: See instructions for Question 6, which will use the same FIRM map.

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**Instructions for completing the compliance documentation:**

**SHPO Correspondence:**

1. If the project activities are immediate rescue and salvage operations conducted to preserve life and property AND the project does not involve either ground disturbance (digging) or work on a building or structure, alert the CDBG Environmental Review Specialist immediately, prior to initiating contact with the SHPO.

2. Initiate contact with the SHPO. Send the project description to the State Historic Preservation Office via email to amanda.burke@dnr.mo.gov with the subject line “Emergency CDBG Project”. Explain that the project is an emergency to address an urgent threat and state whether or not the project involves any ground disturbance.
or activities on a structure over 45 years old. Attach any maps or photographs of the project site. Copy alison.anderson@ded.mo.gov and kimberly.stuefer@ded.mo.gov on all correspondence.

3. Complete the Section 106 Project Information Form and mail to the State Historic Preservation Office at the mailing address on the form.

Floodplain map:

2. Find your project location on FEMA’s floodplain map.
   a. If digital data is available, screenshot the map and paste into another program, such as Word or click “Dynamic Map” for a printable PDF.
   b. If no digital data is available, click “View/Print FIRM”. Click “Make a FIRMette”. Pan to adjust the view as needed, then click “Create FIRMette”. Click “Save your FIRMette”.
      To obtain a map legend, click “Back”, then click “Make a FIRMette” again. Pan to view the legend, then click “Create FIRMette”. Click “Save your FIRMette”.
3. Save and print the map.
4. Mark the project site boundary on the map.
5. Determine the flood zone of the project.

Project activities for which even a slight chance of flooding would be too great because such flooding might result in life, injury to persons, or damage to property may be ineligible for CDBG funds if located in a floodplain. (e.g. hospitals, fire stations, nursing homes, explosive substances etc.) Contact CDBG staff for more information.

   a. If the project is not located in the 100-year floodplain or floodway, the project is in compliance with this part.
   b. If the project is located in the 100-year floodplain (blue on digital map), determine if the project involves replacing or major rehabilitation to a structure that would require additional elevation or other changes. If not, the project is in compliance with this part. For more information, contact CDBG staff.
   c. If the project is in a floodway, only land uses that must necessarily be conducted in close proximity to water are eligible for CDBG funds (e.g. dams, marinas, bridges, etc.). Certain types of underground linear infrastructure may also be eligible if located beneath the floodway. Additional elevation or other changes may not be made to any structures in the floodway under this exemption.

   All other types of project activities are ineligible for CDBG funds if located in a floodway. Contact CDBG staff for more information.

DNR Map of Hazardous Substance Investigation:

1. Go to http://www.dnr.mo.gov/ESTARTMAP/map/init_map.action
2. On the left panel, select all map layers.
3. Find your project location using the search button on the top of the screen.
4. Adjust the zoom to clearly view the project site and adjoining sites.
5. Screenshot the map. Paste the screenshot into another program, such as Word, save, and print.
6. Mark the project site boundary on the map.
7. Determine if the project site or contiguous sites are hazardous. If unsure, contact CDBG staff for assistance.

Recommended: If time allows, send the project description, eStart map, and any other maps or photographs of the site to rob.hunt@dnr.mo.gov with the subject line “Emergency CDBG Project” and request an emergency review of
the project with recommendations. Copy alison.anderson@ded.mo.gov and kimberly.stuefer@ded.mo.gov. It is possible for a response to take several days. Email consultation with DNR is recommended, but is not required if the project site and contiguous sites are not hazardous. Do not delay project activities for email consultation at the expense of public safety.

**EPA Map of Regulated Facilities:**

1. Go to [https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist](https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist)
2. Find your project location on the map using the search tool.
3. On the right panel, select all EPA Facilities.
4. Adjust the zoom to clearly view the project site and adjoining sites.
5. Screenshot the map. Paste the screenshot into another program, such as Word, save, and print.
6. Mark the project site boundary on the map.
7. Determine if the project site or contiguous sites are hazardous. If unsure, contact CDBG staff for assistance.

**IPAC Report:**

1. Go to [https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/](https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/)
2. Create an account or log in.
3. Click “Get Started”.
4. Find your project location, define the area, and click “Continue”.
5. Click “Define Project”.
6. Click “Request Species List”.
7. Follow the directions to obtain your official species list.
8. Download, save, and print the official species list.
9. Find the section titled “Critical Habitats”. If the section states “There are no critical habitats within your project area under this office’s jurisdiction”, the project is in compliance with this part.

**Recommended:** If time allows, send the project description and any maps or photographs of the site to joshua_hundley@fws.gov and naturalheritagereview@mdc.mo.gov with the subject line “Emergency CDBG Project” and request an emergency review of the project’s effects to endangered species with recommendations. Send the emails separately and copy alison.anderson@ded.mo.gov and kimberly.stuefer@ded.mo.gov on both. It is possible for responses to take up to several days. Email consultation for endangered species is recommended, but is not required if an IPAC report for the project has been generated and lists no critical habitat. Do not delay project activities for email consultation at the expense of public safety.

**Map of nearby airports in relation to the project location:**

1. Map must show the project location is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or within 2,500 feet of a civilian airport.
2. If within 15,000 feet of a military airport, a map must show the site is not within a designated Accident Potential Zone (APZ) or a letter from the airport operator stating so.
3. If within 2,500 feet of a civilian airport, a map must show the site is not within a designated Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) /Clear Zone (CZ) or a letter from the airport operator stating so.
4. If the site is in a designated APZ, provide documentation of consistency with DOD Land Use Compatibility Guidelines.
5. If the site is in a designated RPZ/CS and the project does not involve any facilities that will be frequently used or occupied by people, provide a determination of such and a written assurance from the airport operator that there are no plans to purchase the land as part of a RPZ/CZ program.
6. If the site is in a designated RPZ/CZ and the project involves the acquisition or sale of an existing property that will be frequently used or occupied by people, provide a copy of the notice to prospective buyers signed by the prospective buyer.

NPIAS Listing:

1. Go to https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npias/
2. Click ‘Current NPIAS’
3. Click ‘Appendix A PDF’
4. Locate Missouri in the left margin under bookmarks
5. The listing for Missouri will appear
6. Right click on “Missouri” in the left margin under bookmarks to print pages
7. Civil Airports designated with either a “P” or “CS” in the Category column must comply with the requirements.

NFIP Community Listing:

2. Find community listed as either ‘Participating in the National Flood Program’ or ‘Not in the National Flood Program’ and print relevant pages.
3. Provide proof of flood insurance if applicable.

Instructions for Certification:

**Preparer:** The environmental review preparer is the individual responsible for completing the required documentation for the environmental review. The preparer may be any individual with the necessary knowledge to complete the environmental review.

**RE Certifying Officer:** The RE Certifying Officer is the individual responsible for certifying the environmental review. The RE is the Responsible Entity, or the City or County that has accepted responsibility for the project and has applied or will apply for CDBG funds. The RE Certifying Officer must be a government official of the City or County with authority to make decisions about the project. Typically, the RE Certifying Officer should be a City Mayor or County Presiding Commissioner.

**Recommended:** Send the completed environmental review packet to alison.anderson@ded.mo.gov and kimberly.stuefer@ded.mo.gov and request CDBG approval prior to certification by the RE Certifying Officer. After CDBG approves the completed packet, follow up with the signed page.

The environmental review must be certified before any project activities begin. If the environmental review packet is deemed insufficient by CDBG after project activities have begun, the project may be ineligible for CDBG funds.
COMPLETION OF THIS PACKET DOES NOT GUARANTEE ELIGIBILITY FOR CDBG FUNDS.

APPROVAL OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AWARDANCE OF GRANT FUNDS.

THIS PACKET IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDS.

Contact Daniel.engler@ded.mo.gov for more information about CDBG eligibility and how to apply. Applications may be submitted before or after the completion of eligible emergency project activities.
Finding of Exemption for Improvements Related to Disasters & Imminent Threat

To be eligible for exemption provided by 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10), the responsible entity must document the presence of certain conditions that justify the determination of the exemption.

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO BEGINNING PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

**Project Description** *(Include an account of what caused the disaster or imminent threat, the existing conditions, what the project will consist of, and estimated cost. Attach additional pages as necessary):*

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<th>Project Location:</th>
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Activities must be necessary to control or arrest the effects from disaster or imminent threat to public safety including those resulting from physical deterioration:

1. Has a local disaster or emergency, or a state or federal disaster recently been declared? □YES □NO
   If “Yes”, provide the disaster declaration:_____________________________________

2. Would the project remedy an immediate threat to public safety? □YES □NO

*If “No” to 1 and 2, the project is not exempt per 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10) and another level of environmental review must be completed.*

Activities must be limited to protection, repair, or restoration necessary to control or arrest the effects:

3. Does the project include:
   a. new additions, relocations, or enlargements? □YES □NO
   b. changes to the primary use or density of occupancy? □YES □NO
   c. alteration of a building’s footprint? □YES □NO

*If “yes” to any of the above, the project is not exempt per 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10) and another level of environmental review must be completed.*

4. Does the project include work that:
   a. provides temporary protection from further damage to a building or structure? □YES □NO
   b. makes permanent repairs to a damaged building or structure? □YES □NO
   c. is for restoration of essential community services and related utilities and facilities to their condition prior to the disaster without significant change in size or capacity? □YES □NO
Finding of Exemption for Improvements Related to Disasters and Imminent Threat

Environmental Conditions:

5. Could the project affect significant elements of properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? □YES □NO

6. Does the project involve replacing or major rehabilitation to a structure within a Special Flood Hazard Area that would require additional elevation or other changes? □YES □NO
   If “Yes”, the project is not exempt per 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10) and another level of environmental review must be completed.

7. Will the site be occupied?
   a. Is the project site or a contiguous site known to be hazardous? □YES □NO
   If “Yes” to 7 AND 7a, the project is not exempt per 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10) and another level of environmental review must be completed.

8. Does the project involve work on sites that could adversely impact the known critical habitat of endangered species? □YES □NO
   If “Yes”, the project is not exempt per 24 CFR 58.34(a)(10) and another level of environmental review must be completed.

58.6 Other requirements.

9. Does the project involve the sale or acquisition of property located within a Civil Airport Runway Clear Zone or a Military Airfield Clear Zone? □YES □NO
   If yes, notice must be provided to the buyer that advises the buyer that the property is in a Runway Clear Zone, what the implications of such a location are, and that there is a possibility that the property may, at a later date be acquired by the airport operator. The buyer must sign a statement acknowledging receipt of this information, and a copy of the signed notice must be maintained in the Environmental Review Record.

10. Is the project located in a coastal barrier resource area? □YES □NO
    There are no CBRAs in Missouri according to https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/mystate/

11. Does the project involve acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation or structures located in a FEMA-identified Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)? □YES □NO
   a. If YES, is the community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)? □YES □NO
      If the project is located in a SFHA and the community if participating, flood insurance under NFIP must be obtained. If HUD assistance is provided as a grant, insurance must be maintained for the economic life of the project and in the amount of the total project cost (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less). If HUD assistance is provided as a loan, insurance must be maintained for the term of the loan and in the amount of the loan (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less). A copy of the flood insurance policy declaration must be kept on file in the ERR.
If the project is located in a SFHA and the community is NOT participating, federal Assistance may not be used in the SFHA.

**Compliance:** Required source documentation

- All SHPO correspondence
- Floodplain Map
- DNR Map of Hazardous Substance Investigation
- Map of EPA regulated Facilities
- USFWS clearance (IPac)
- Map of nearby airports in relation to the project location
- NPIAS Listing
- NFIP Community Listing and proof of flood insurance, if applicable

- The project is exempt AND compliance has been met.

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<td>In my capacity as Certifying Officer on behalf of the Responsible Entity and in conformance with 24 CFR Part 58, I have reviewed and independently evaluated the environmental review prepared by the above-designated individual, and supplemented the information where appropriate. On behalf of the Responsible Entity, I assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained herein.</td>
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