Environmental Review Community Development Block Grant Office of Long-Term Resiliency Sally Voluntary Home Buyout Project



TO: Wesley Moreno, County Administrator

Escambia County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: James "Geoff" Amison, Environmental Program Manager jga

Florida Department of Commerce Office of Long-Term Resiliency

DATE: October 30, 2023

RE: Escambia County BOCC

Sally Voluntary Home Buyout Project

Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

Federal Grant Number: B-21-DZ-12-0001 FloridaCommerce Agreement Number: HS011

On September 6, 2023, Escambia County BOCC submitted the Exemption Certification and associated documentation related to the Sally Voluntary Home Buyout Project. Additional information was requested on September 18, 2023 and received on September 28, 2023.

After reviewing the information, FloridaCommerce confirms compliance requirements of 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 58.34(a) have been met and funding specific to the <u>exempt activities</u> indicated in the Exemption Certification may be expended.

However, the Escambia County's Sally Voluntary Home Buyout <u>project</u> does not meet the exemption requirements of 24 CFR 58.34(a) and therefore a higher level of environmental review will be required based on the project's activities or scope of work. Refer to <u>24 CFR 58.35(a)</u> and <u>24 CFR 58.36</u> to determine the level of environmental review necessary for the remaining activities associated with this project.

Note: The environmental review must be submitted to and approved by FloridaCommerce before funds may be committed or expended for the project activities not covered by the Exemption Certification.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Hector Rivera Environmental Specialist, at (850) 921-3193 (Hector.Rivera@commerce.fl.gov) or Geoff Amison, Environmental Program Manager, at (850) 717-8422 (James.Amison@commerce.fl.gov).