



**Health Resources and Services Administration**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

for

**GEORGIA HIGHLANDS MEDICAL SERVICE INC  
GHMS BUFORD CENTER  
3899 CARTER ROAD  
BUFORD, GA 30518**

**C8ECS44650, 192186-02**

**BACKGROUND**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides funding to support health centers with the expansion and improvement of their physical infrastructure in order to increase their capacity to provide primary and preventive health care services to medically underserved populations nationwide. This proposed activity is supported through funding awarded by HRSA.

**PROPOSED ACTION**

GEORGIA HIGHLANDS MEDICAL SERVICE INC has applied for this HRSA award. The applicant proposes to use the HRSA funding to construct a new 6,277 SF healthcare facility. The applicant submitted an Environmental Assessment (EA) that documents impacts of the proposed action. This EA is incorporated by reference into this FONSI.

**MITIGATION**

This FONSI is predicated on implementation of the following mitigation measures:

- Best management practices (BMPs) will be developed and implemented during construction, such as erosion and sedimentation control (e.g. silt fences, hay bales, revegetating disturbed soils, and maintaining site soil stockpiles) to prevent soils from eroding and dispersing offsite.
- BMPs to cover and/or wet soils during construction will be developed and implemented to minimize dust.
- During construction, operation of fuel-burning equipment will be kept to a minimum and engines will be properly maintained.
- Construction vehicles and equipment will be stored on-site and appropriate signage will be posted on affected roadways.

- Construction will take place during normal business hours and equipment machinery installed at the proposed site will meet all local, state, and federal noise regulations.
- All normal construction permits and BMPs will be used to minimize disruption to public utility services in the area.
- Should human skeletal remains or archaeological artifacts or features be encountered, all construction activities must cease immediately. HRSA and the Georgia Historic Preservation Division must be contacted immediately.

## CONCLUSION

HRSA hereby adopts the EA prepared by the applicant for the proposed action described above. After reviewing the assessment and the supporting materials provided by the award recipient, HRSA finds that the assessment properly documents the proposal's status of compliance with the environmental laws and requirements listed therein.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) and the HHS General Administration Manual Part 30 Environmental Protection (February 25, 2000), HRSA has determined that, with the mitigation measures described above, the proposed action will have no significant adverse impact on the quality of the human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Approvals:

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Sarah Trinidad	Date
MPH, BSN, RN, NE-BC, NHDP-BC	
Commander (CDR), U.S. Public Health Service	
Director, Infrastructure Improvement Investment Management	
Office of Health Center Investment Oversight	
Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)	