

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE
PAVAHO PUMPING PLANT
DALLAS, TEXAS**

Description of Action. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess the potential environmental consequences resulting from implementation of proposed improvements to the Pavaho Pumping Plant in the City of Dallas, Texas. Section 5141 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 outlines authorization for this project. The USACE, Fort Worth District is the action proponent, as the proposed project involves federal funding and federal interests in property. The City of Dallas is a cooperating agency.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide 100-year, 24-hour storm event flood risk management for the area served by the Pavaho Pumping Plant. The USACE and City of Dallas need to implement Pavaho Pumping Plant improvements because people and property in the Pavaho Basin are currently subject to stormwater flooding impacts. By improving the Pavaho Pumping Plant, the USACE and City of Dallas would be able to provide improved flood risk management to people and property in the Pavaho Basin.

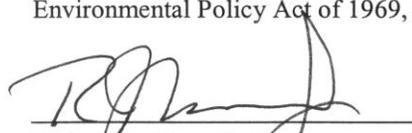
Under the Proposed Action, the USACE and City of Dallas would construct a new approximately 10,890-square foot (ft) pump station consisting of three, 125,000-gallons per minute (gpm) pumps, and one, 6,000-gpm low-flow pump. Discharge from new pumps would flow into one 120-inch diameter pipe into a junction box adjacent to and north of the existing Pavaho Pump Station. There, the discharge from the existing and proposed Pavaho Pump Stations would combine and drain via two existing 6 ft by 8 ft gravity sluices into the Trinity River.

Additionally, the USACE and City of Dallas would enact minor improvements to the existing Pavaho Pump Station to increase the service life and minimize future maintenance. The USACE and City of Dallas would construct two new sluice gates and replace the existing ladder and junction box. A series of 1-ft thick gabion mattress would minimize erosion in and around the existing Pavaho Pumping Plant outfall.

Anticipated Environmental Effects. Through the planning process, the USACE identified six feasible alternatives to address flood risk management needs within the project area and the no action alternative. Under the no action alternative, no flood risk management measures would be implemented. If no action were taken, current flood risk would likely continue and gradually worsen. The lack of protection from a 100-year, 24-hour storm event would likely result in loss of property and threat to human life. Other alternatives addressed various options for sump expansion, use of pressure sewers, and increasing pumping capacity by constructing new pumps and potentially demolishing the existing pump station. Five of the six remaining alternatives were eliminated from further consideration because either they did not meet flood risk management objectives of the proposed project or had potential for significant impacts if implemented.

The proposed action would not have any significant impacts on the social, economic, or human and natural environments. No adverse impact on any species, which are proposed or listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, is expected. No significant transportation, noise, land use, environmental justice, or hazardous waste concerns were identified within the project area. The existing Pavaho Pump Station is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Consultation with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer resulted in a Memorandum of Agreement that mitigated the adverse effect of the undertaking. Contractors would be required to have erosion control, traffic control, and hazardous spill prevention plans in place. Proposed construction measures and operation and maintenance features of the project meet the criteria for Nationwide Permit 12 - "Utility Line Activities."

Facts and Conclusions. Based on a review of the information contained in this EA, it is concluded that the implementation of the Pavaho Pumping Plant improvements in Dallas, Texas is not a major Federal action, which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended.


Richard J. Muraski, Jr.
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander

20 June 2010
Date