

**Federal Emergency Management Agency  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA)  
for the Proposed Sandoval County Communications  
Tower and Shelter Project  
Sandoval County, New Mexico  
Homeland Security Grant Program  
Project # 2012-SS-00097 (14436)**

Interested persons are hereby notified that the County of Sandoval has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Homeland Security Grant Program for funding to assist with the construction of the proposed Sandoval County Communications Tower and Shelter Project in Sandoval County, New Mexico. The project is a cooperative effort between the Village of Corrales, City of Rio Rancho, Sandoval County, Town of Bernalillo, and Bernalillo County. The Village of Corrales is providing the land, and the City of Rio Rancho is providing a 180-foot tower that was located at Rio Rancho Station 5. Moreover, these entities, including the Town of Bernalillo would move equipment that is currently installed elsewhere to this location. Sandoval County would abandon an existing communication site at Barbara Loop in Rio Rancho that is privately owned, and relocate that infrastructure to the proposed site in Corrales. The 180-foot communications tower would be a 3-legged structure with a face width of approximately 14 feet. The proposed site would be located at 002 Quiet Lane, Corrales, NM 87048 (35.254415,-106.631989).

This site would improve communications and result in financial savings for all agencies involved. In addition, part of the site capability will be to facilitate interoperability communications service for agencies located within the geographical area ranging from the Pueblo of Isleta to the Pueblo of Cochiti. The new communication site will enable radio communication (both operable and interoperable) during geographically large incidents (i.e., wildfire, river rescue, winter weather, mass casualty incidents, terrorism, etc.). The project has been approved by the Corrales Planning and Zoning Department.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the implementing regulations of FEMA, a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences for the proposed action. The Draft EA is available for comment and can be viewed and downloaded from Sandoval County website at [www.sandovalcounty.com](http://www.sandovalcounty.com) and at the Village of Corrales website [www.corrales-nm.org](http://www.corrales-nm.org). The Draft EA can also be viewed at the Corrales Village Hall located at 4324 Corrales Road, Corrales, NM between the hours of 8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday and Corrales Library located at 84 W. La Entrada, Corrales, NM on Monday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; on Tuesday 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm; on Wednesday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm; on Thursday 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm; on Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; and on Saturday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm.

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date of September 10, 2014. Written comments on the Draft EA can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

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