REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION from SHPO REVIEW

Grant Recipient/Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TxCDBG Contract Number (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address of Project Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Project Description:**

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1. **Buildings:** give the estimated age or construction date of any buildings, facilities, treatment plants or bridges per Stipulation V. (see below).

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1. **Project Locations (be specific):**

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1. **Cemeteries:** How far is the closest cemetery from each location of the TxCDBG Project(s)?

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1. **Project County:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **Reason Project Activity is Exempt from SHPO Review:** reference reason from Stipulation V. of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) below.

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1. **Pictures:** Take a “before” picture of the primary locations directly impacted by project activities. Attach them to this form.
2. **Certification:**

As the duly designated certifying official of the Grant Recipient/Applicant, I also certify that: I am authorized to and do consent to assume the status of responsible federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.

Signature of Certifying Official \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name & Title of Certifying Official

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date Certified \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This form is optional and to be used only for TxCDBG project activities that meet the requirements of Stipulation V of TDA-THC Programmatic Agreement. Submit this formto CDBG\_EnvReview@TexasAgriculture.gov immediately upon knowledge that HUD funds will be requested or used and retain a copy in the Environmental Review Record. This form will be reviewed by the Environmental Review Specialist for final determination of exemption.

Once approved, complete the rest of the Environmental Review process as described by Chapter 3 of the TxCDBG Implementation Manual, 24 CFR 58, and all other applicable laws and regulations. (If not approved, TDA staff will provide instructions for next steps.)

**Programmatic Agreement between TDA and the Texas Historical Commission (excerpt)**

**Stipulation V. Actions Exempted from Review by the SHPO**

TDA has determined that the following types of activities have limited or no potential to affect historic properties and require no further review under the terms of this Programmatic Agreement (PA). TDA shall maintain a list of undertakings completed per this stipulation and shall make the list available upon the request of SHPO.

A. Routine road maintenance and resurfacing where work is confined to the existing right-of-way and previously maintained surfaces, ditches, culverts, and cut and fill slopes where there are no known historic properties, or historic properties would not be affected because the proposed work is clearly within a disturbed context;

B. Maintenance, alteration, or removal of existing buildings or other facilities less than 45 years old that are not listed on the National Register of Historic Places or within a National Register Historic District and that have not been previously determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places;

C. Point repair to an existing water or wastewater line where construction occurs in the original trench.

D. Replacement of existing water or wastewater lines where all construction occurs within the original trench.

E. Replacement of existing water or wastewater lines in a new trench paralleling the existing line if the following conditions are met:

1. The replacement occurs beneath city streets or adjacent to drainage rights-of way (as in item A);

2. The replacement does not occur within a National Register District or local Historic District, an eligible NR district or a local historic district.”

3. The replacement does not occur within the historic towns such as Goliad, San Augustine, Jefferson, Nacogdoches, Bastrop, Castroville, San Ygnacio, Roma, Refugio, Ysleta, San Elizario, and Presidio or within areas that contain a significant number of properties that are 45 years of older

4. The replacement does not occur beneath historic infrastructure such as historic bricked streets and historic curbing, or decorative streetscape features; and

5. The replacement does not occur adjacent to roads in rural areas of the county (where abandoned cemeteries or unrecorded archeological sites might be impacted by a new trench).

F. Minor alterations or additions to existing water or wastewater treatment plants or other

facilities that are less than 45 years old. (Excavation of new treatment ponds or enlargement of existing ponds are not considered minor alterations and are subject to review).

G. Installation of generators at existing water/wastewater or shelter facilities.

H. Addition or replacement of equipment within the same location and footprint. (Examples include but not limited to: Computer monitoring equipment, bar screens, clarifiers, chlorination equipment, SCADA equipment etc.)

I. Repair of bridges less than 45 years old.

**Stipulation VI. Actions That Require Review by the SHPO**

Any undertaking with the potential to affect historic resources that is not specifically excluded from SHPO review by Stipulation V shall be subject to review under this agreement. The following actions that are funded by TDA are examples of those undertakings that require review by the SHPO under this PA. However, this list is not comprehensive and any projects that involve excavation or alteration of buildings or structures more than 45 years old that are not specifically exempted under Stipulation V must be submitted for review.

A. The construction of new water or wastewater lines using mechanized equipment.

B. The construction of new water or wastewater lines parallel to an existing line, but not within the same trench, that will disturb previously undisturbed soil, except as excluded under the conditions set forth in Stipulation V.E.

C. The installation of a new ground storage tank where soil is disturbed in order to construct the foundation for the tank. Other than previously disturbed areas that are currently part of the water / wastewater facility.

D. The installation of a new elevated storage tank where soil will be disturbed in order to construct the support structure for the tank. The visual effect of the new tower on surrounding historic properties must also be evaluated.

E. The construction of new streets in previously undisturbed areas.

F. The reconstruction of streets that increase the width of the existing roadway and disturb soil that was not disturbed during prior construction.

G. The reconstruction of bridges in areas where additional actions designed to prevent similar future damage will cause soil disturbance.

H. The construction of new drainage structures in areas that have experienced minimal disturbance of the soil. This includes the construction of new drainage ditches, storm culverts and storm water detention basins.

I. The construction of new wastewater or water treatment facilities. In many cases the construction of various basins treatment units and associated yard piping require excavation to varying depths over much of the site.

J. The expansion of existing water or wastewater facilities requiring excavation in areas of a plant site that may not have been disturbed during the original construction.

K. Maintenance, alteration or removal of existing buildings or other facilities greater than 45 years old.

L. Any projects that involve excavation or alteration of buildings or structures more than 45 years old that are not specifically exempted under Stipulation V must be submitted for review.

In addition, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas has opted not to participate in this PA.  **A project located within the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas areas of interest is not eligible for a SHPO exemption**.

TDA and the SHPO may amend, alter, or delete actions covered by these stipulations through a written agreement of both parties and upon notification to Indian Tribes, for review and comment without formal amendment process.

Further consultation may be required for compliance with other applicable state laws, including the Antiquities Code of Texas (Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapter 191), provisions covering state historic markers including Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks (Texas Government Code Section 442.006), and provisions protecting county courthouses (Texas Government Code Section 442.008).