# Appendix B: Public and Stakeholder Involvement

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Date: December 6, 2021
To: Valued Stakeholders

Subject: Notice of Scoping and Stakeholder Involvement for the Proposed VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to renovate existing buildings and construct a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127. The proposed project would provide state-of-the-art facilities to meet the need for expanded Veteran health care services in the region.

The primary components of the proposed VA Inpatient Facility project are:

- Renovating, constructing, and operating approximately 259,000 square feet within the existing eight-story Kerr Building and the existing four-story Edmondson Building to provide inpatient medical-surgical hospital functions, including space improvements for medical beds, surgical support, operating rooms, and an emergency department.
- Demolishing the existing 25,000-square-foot lobby, connecting link, and auditorium and constructing an estimated 25,000 square feet of new lobbies and connecting link.
- Resurfacing 195 existing surface parking spaces.
- Constructing and operating temporary support areas and utility improvements on and off the proposed project site to accommodate the facility.

The proposed VA Inpatient Facility and an adjacent non-VA development are shown in Figure 1. The adjacent development is a non-federal project to be developed by the Oklahoma State University (OSU) Center for Health Sciences and OSU Medical Authority and is not part of VA’s proposed action.

VA is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EA will evaluate the potential direct and indirect impacts to the environment resulting from the Proposed Action, as well as cumulative impacts with other actions and projects including the OSU development on the adjacent property.
VA is also currently conducting formal National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and federally recognized tribes to identify historic properties that may potentially be affected by the undertaking and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate potential adverse effects. The Section 106 consultation process and conclusions will provide the major contribution to the EA’s analysis of potential effects to historic and cultural resources.

If you have comments on the scope of issues for analysis, or input on potential alternatives or information/analyses relevant to the Proposed Action, please submit your comments/input via email to vacoenvironment@va.gov with the subject line “Tulsa VA EA” by January 7, 2022. For additional information or questions, please contact Ms. Christine Modovsky, VA Environmental Engineer, at Christine.Modovsky@va.gov or (202) 632-5352. Reference “Tulsa VA EA” in your correspondence.

VA anticipates publishing the Draft EA for a 30-day public review and comment period in early 2022. VA will notify stakeholders via email/mail, publish a notice of availability of the Draft EA in the Tulsa World, and solicit comments at that time. The Draft EA will be available for review at the Tulsa City County Public Library, 400 Civic Center, Tulsa OK 74103, and via the VA website: https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/.
December 6, 2021

Senator James Lankford
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

SUBJECT: Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Senator Lankford:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a project to renovate existing buildings and construct a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. As part of the decision-making process, VA will undertake activities to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). VA is seeking input on issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, including environmental concerns.

VA invites your input to the NEPA process. Please see the attached scoping notice for information on the proposed project and how to submit any comments or input on alternatives and issues VA should analyze in the EA.

Enclosure: Scoping Notice
December 6, 2021

Senator Jim Inhofe
205 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

SUBJECT: Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Senator Inhofe:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a project to renovate existing buildings and construct a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. As part of the decision-making process, VA will undertake activities to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). VA is seeking input on issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, including environmental concerns.

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Enclosure: Scoping Notice
December 6, 2021

Representative Kevin Hern
1019 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

SUBJECT: Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Representative Hern:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a project to renovate existing buildings and construct a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. As part of the decision-making process, VA will undertake activities to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). VA is seeking input on issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, including environmental concerns.

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Enclosure: Scoping Notice
December 6, 2021

Senator Kevin Matthews  
Oklahoma State Senate  
2300 North Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

SUBJECT: Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Senator Matthews:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a project to renovate existing buildings and construct a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. As part of the decision-making process, VA will undertake activities to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). VA is seeking input on issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, including environmental concerns.

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Enclosure: Scoping Notice
December 6, 2021

Representative Regina Goodwin
Oklahoma State House of Representatives
2300 North Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

**SUBJECT: Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma**

Dear Representative Goodwin:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing a project to renovate existing buildings and construct a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. As part of the decision-making process, VA will undertake activities to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). VA is seeking input on issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, including environmental concerns.

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Enclosure: Scoping Notice
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Department of Transportation</td>
<td>Tim Gatz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tgatz@dot.state.ok.us">tgatz@dot.state.ok.us</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)</td>
<td>Jon Roberts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnvReviews@doee.ok.gov">EnvReviews@doee.ok.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation</td>
<td>J.D. Strong</td>
<td><a href="mailto:odwc@owen.ok.gov">odwc@owen.ok.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment (the OK recipient of all Clean Water Act funds)</td>
<td>Kenneth E. Wagner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deq@ee.ok.gov">deq@ee.ok.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB)</td>
<td>Julie Cunningham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Julie.Cunningham@owrb.ok.gov">Julie.Cunningham@owrb.ok.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa Health Dept</td>
<td>Bruce Dart</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tulart@tulsahealth.org">tulart@tulsahealth.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa County Commissioner for District that the VHiT fall in</td>
<td>Karen Keith</td>
<td><a href="mailto:keith@tulsaCounty.org">keith@tulsaCounty.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office</td>
<td>Lynda Ozan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ozan@okhistory.org">ozan@okhistory.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Archeological Survey</td>
<td>Kary Stackelbeck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:okscap@uok.edu">okscap@uok.edu</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Conservation Commission</td>
<td>Trey Lam</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tlam@conservation.ok.gov">tlam@conservation.ok.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>Susan Menning</td>
<td><a href="mailto:susan.menning@fws.gov">susan.menning@fws.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</td>
<td>Steve Nolan</td>
<td>epa-pa-army.mil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security FEMA</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:fema-a4-external-affair@fema.dhs.gov">fema-a4-external-affair@fema.dhs.gov</a></td>
<td>FEMA Region IV, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, 800 North Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209-3698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Tulsa Office of the Mayor</td>
<td>G.T. Bynum</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mayor@cityoftulsa.org">mayor@cityoftulsa.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Tulsa Councilperson for the area of the VHT Development</td>
<td>Kara Joy McKee</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Dist4@tulsaCouncil.org">Dist4@tulsaCouncil.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Terri Parton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terri.parton@watahastrib.com">terri.parton@watahastrib.com</a></td>
<td>PO Box 729 Anadarko, OK 73005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osage Nation of Oklahoma</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:osage@osagenation-nsn.gov">osage@osagenation-nsn.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osage Nation of Oklahoma</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ghs.hendrix@osagenation-nsn.gov">ghs.hendrix@osagenation-nsn.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Geoffrey Standing Bear</td>
<td><a href="mailto:standingbear@delawaretribe.org">standingbear@delawaretribe.org</a></td>
<td>PO Box 779 Pawhuska, OK 74056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Chester “Chef” Brooks</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cbrooks@delawaretribe.org">cbrooks@delawaretribe.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:elizabeth.dooms@cherokee.org">elizabeth.dooms@cherokee.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Chuck Hoskin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chuck.hoskin@cherokee.org">chuck.hoskin@cherokee.org</a></td>
<td>PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town</td>
<td>Nelson Harjo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nharjo@alabama-quassarte.org">nharjo@alabama-quassarte.org</a></td>
<td>PO Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:nharjo@alabama-quassarte.org">nharjo@alabama-quassarte.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apache Tribe of Oklahoma</td>
<td>Bobby Komardley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bobkomardley@outlook.com">bobkomardley@outlook.com</a></td>
<td>PO Box 1300 Anadarko, OK 73005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma</td>
<td>Reggie Wassana</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shamilton@ca-tribes.org">shamilton@ca-tribes.org</a></td>
<td>P.O. Box 167 Concho, OK 73022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:shamilton@ca-tribes.org">shamilton@ca-tribes.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscogee (Creek) Nation</td>
<td>David Hill</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dhill@msc-nsn.gov">dhill@msc-nsn.gov</a></td>
<td>PO Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Ms. Modovsky:

In response to your request, we have completed a general environmental impact review for the project listed below.

**Project**
Email/Letter dated December 6, 2021 – Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, 440 South Houston Ave., Tulsa, Tulsa County, OK [36.14900, -95.99948]

**Adverse Environmental Impacts Under DEQ Jurisdiction**
None anticipated.

**Additional Regulatory Requirements For Consideration**
Prior to beginning any construction activity disturbing more than one acre, you must submit an NOI and obtain authorization under OKR10, construction stormwater. If you need assistance, please contact DEQ’s Stormwater Unit at (405) 702-6100.

Note: This is a summary of the most common regulatory requirements that may be applicable to your project. Other regulatory requirements may apply.

Additional recommendations to consider may be found at [https://go.usa.gov/xFE4c](https://go.usa.gov/xFE4c).

For future projects, please include GPS coordinates in decimal degrees (DD.DDDDD) and continue including street addresses, section/township/range, or other location information.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments. If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact me.

Regards,

**Jon A. Roberts | Senior Manager**
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Continuous Improvement
707 N. Robinson Ave.
P. O. Box 1677
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677
Ph: 405.702.7111
Thursday April 28, 2022

Sent via email

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the proposed acquisition by donation, renovation of existing buildings, and construction of a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility on a 5.2-acre site at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127. The proposed project would provide state-of-the-art facilities to meet the need for expanded Veteran health care services in the region.

The Draft EA examines the potential environmental effects from implementing the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. VA prepared the Draft EA in accordance with the regulations implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S. Code 4321-4370h), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508), and VA Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26).

The Draft EA is available for public review at Tulsa City County Library (located at 400 Civic Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103) and on the VA website at www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/. The 30-day public review and comment period ends on Sunday, May 29, 2022. Comments on the Draft EA should be sent to VACOEnvironment@va.gov with the subject line “Tulsa VA EA” no later than 11:59 p.m. Sunday, May 29, 2022.

VA will prepare and publish a Final EA following the 30-day comment period. The Final EA will summarize and address comments on the Draft EA.

For additional information or questions, please contact Mr. Bruce Mack, VA Environmental Engineer, at Bruce.Mack@va.gov. please reference “Tulsa VA EA” in your correspondence.
April 27, 2022

Senator James Lankford
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Senator Lankford:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed acquisition by donation, renovation of existing buildings, and construction of a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility on a 5.2-acre site at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127. The proposed project would provide state-of-the-art facilities to meet the need for expanded Veteran health care services in the region.

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Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott
Director, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Enclosure:

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
April 27, 2022

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Washington, DC 20510

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

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Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott
Director, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Enclosure:

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
April 27, 2022

Representative Kevin Hern
1019 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
April 27, 2022

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Oklahoma City, OK 73105

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Office of Construction & Facilities Management

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Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
April 27, 2022

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Oklahoma City, OK 73105

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Respectfully,

Glenn Elliott

Glenn Elliott
Director, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Enclosure:

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
Dear Mayor Bynum:

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Please note that the notice inviting review and comment of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) by the general public will be published tomorrow (29 April, 2022) in the Tulsa World newspaper.

Respectfully,

Bruce Mack
Engineer, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Enclosure:
Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
Dear Ms. McKee:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed acquisition by donation, renovation of existing buildings, and construction of a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility on a 5.2-acre site at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127. The proposed project would provide state-of-the-art facilities to meet the need for expanded Veteran health care services in the region.

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Respectfully,

Bruce Mack
Engineer, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Enclosure:
Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
Dear Ms. Keith:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed acquisition by donation, renovation of existing buildings, and construction of a new building to create a new VA Inpatient Facility on a 5.2-acre site at 440 South Houston Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127. The proposed project would provide state-of-the-art facilities to meet the need for expanded Veteran health care services in the region.

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Respectfully,

Bruce Mack
Engineer, Environmental Program Office
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Enclosure:

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed VA Inpatient Facility Tulsa, Oklahoma
Dear Valued Stakeholder:

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment (the OK recipient of all Clean Water Act funds)</td>
<td>Kenneth E. Wagner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kee@ee.ok.gov">kee@ee.ok.gov</a></td>
<td>204 N. Robinson Suite 1010, Oklahoma City, OK 73102</td>
</tr>
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<td>Julie Cunningham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:julie.cunningham@owrb.ok.gov">julie.cunningham@owrb.ok.gov</a></td>
<td>3800 N. Classen, OKC, OK 73118</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tulsa Health Dept.</td>
<td>Bruce Dart</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bdlart@tulsa-health.org">bdlart@tulsa-health.org</a></td>
<td>5051 S. 129th E. Avenue, Tulsa, OK, 74134</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma Conservation Commission</td>
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<td>2800 N. Lincoln Blvd, Ste. 160, OKC, OK 73105</td>
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<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
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<td>9014 East 21st St., Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74129</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</td>
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<td>2488 E 61st St, Tulsa, OK, 74137</td>
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<td>U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security FEMA</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:fema-r4-external-affairs@fema.dhs.gov">fema-r4-external-affairs@fema.dhs.gov</a></td>
<td>FEMA Region IV, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, 800 North Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209-3698</td>
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