

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Development

Catawba Nation: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that RHS, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by the Catawba Nation. The proposal is for the construction of a permanent building to serve as a tribal court and law enforcement facility in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patti Walker, Specialist, RHS 1555 Richland Ave East, Suite 100, Aiken, SC 29801; 803-262-4483; patti.walker@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Catawba Nation proposes to construct an 11,700 SF building on an approximately 13 acres site located at 1324 Rivercrest Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730, Tax ID# 745-00-00-001. The building will provide space for tribal court and law enforcement services.

UES, an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment for RHS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to minimize environmental effects. RHS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Questions and comments should be sent to RHS. Also, review of the environmental assessment may be done at RHS Office located at 1555 Richland Ave East, Suite 100, Aiken, SC 29801. RHS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any final action by RHS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.

Dated: February 18th, 2025

