

## NOTICE FOR APPLICANTS REQUESTING HUD FUNDING

To: 2008 Applicants

From: The Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
Office of Affordable Housing

Re: DCA Environmental Review Requirements for 2008 HOME Applicants

Date: **June 5, 2008**

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The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the responsible entity (RE) referred to in 24 CFR Part 58, Environmental Review Procedures for Entities Assuming HUD Responsibilities, is responsible for undertaking environmental reviews for certain proposed projects with HUD funds. In this capacity, DCA must ensure that the environmental review process is satisfied before certain HUD funds are committed to specific projects. The submittal of this application for funding has triggered the environmental review process.

As a result of the submittal of your application for HUD based funding and in order to ensure that the environmental review process is not challenged, Owners and/or Developer of proposed projects **must refrain** from undertaking activities that could have an adverse environmental impact prior to the receipt of an environmental clearance letter from DCA removing the stipulated conditions. Such activities include: acquiring, rehabilitating, converting, leasing, repairing, or constructing property. As a result, an Applicant can not commit or expend HUD **or** non-federal funds until the environmental review process has been completed. Thus, no project expenditures may be incurred or any funds expended for any activity (other than exempt activities—see 24 CFR Sec. 58.5) prior to receipt of an environmental clearance letter removing the conditions.

Before a final HOME commitment can be issued, DCA will need to obtain public comments on the proposed site and seek final environmental clearance from HUD. Therefore, as soon as initial awards are announced in the upcoming round, DCA will publish notices of its intent to allocate HOME funds in local newspapers in the proposed project's areas. During the publication process, private citizens and organizations may object to the release of funds for HOME projects on certain grounds relating to environmental review. After comments have been received if any, HUD will review the comments to determine if there has been a finding. Once that process is complete and there has been no finding, DCA will seek HUD's approval of its commitment of HOME funds to the proposed project. After HUD issues its approval, the Applicant will then be notified by DCA that activities can commence.

If you have any questions about this requirement, please contact Cassandra Knight, Legal Affairs Manager, at [cknight@dca.state.ga.us](mailto:cknight@dca.state.ga.us) or 404-679-4805.

*By signing below, the Applicant acknowledges the receipt of this notice and agrees to refrain from undertaking any activities that could have an adverse environmental impact prior to the receipt of an environmental clearance letter from DCA removing the stipulated conditions.*

**Application Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Application Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Signed By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_