NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

July 27, 2026, through August 11, 2026

City of New Orleans Office of Community Development (CNO)
1340 Poydras Street, 10th floor
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-658-4200

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by The City of New Orleans.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 12, 2026, CNO will submit a request to the Louisiana Office of Community Development-Disaster Recovery (LOCD-DR) for the release of Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR): Resilient Community Infrastructure Program (RCIP) funds through the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Pub.L.117-43, as amended); in Federal Docket No. FR-6303-N-01, to undertake a project known as the CNO Energy Incubator Project (36LDRC7801) for the purpose of attracting new companies to New Orleans in energy-related sector to create jobs and economic opportunities, in the amount of $3,000,000.00. The project includes construction of a purpose-built innovation hub focused on accelerating scale-up and deployment of industrial power, carbon management and utilization, and shipping of maritime innovations. CDBG-DR funds would support the purchase and installation of specialized equipment such as overhead cranes, laboratory equipment and related safety features. The estimated total HUD funds are $3,000,000.00 utilizing grant number B-21-DF-22-0001

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

CNO has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at City of New Orleans, Office of Community Development, 1340 Poydras Street, 10th floor, New Orleans, LA 70112, and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. To view the full ERR, call 658-4395 or email cafoundas@nola.gov for an appointment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to City of New Orleans Office of Community Development. All comments received by August 11, 2026, will be considered by CNO prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

CNO certifies to The Louisiana Office of Community Development-Disaster Recovery (LOCD-DR) that Jeffrey Schwartz in his capacity as City of New Orleans Deputy Mayor for Community and Economic Development consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. Louisiana Office of Community Development's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of New Orleans to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

Louisiana Office of Community Development-Disaster Recovery will accept objections to its release of funds and CNO's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer for the City of New Orleans; (b) the City of New Orleans has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities no authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by OCD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Louisiana Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery at Murilo.Martins@la.gov or mail to Louisiana Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery at:

Gina Campo
617 N. Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Potential objectors should contact Louisiana Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Helena Moreno
Mayor

Jeffrey Schwartz
Deputy Mayor for Community and Economic Development