DCED-ESD-136 (7/09)
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Community & Economic Development
Office of Community Development
400 North Street
4th Fl., Commonwealth Keystone Building
Harrisburg, Pa 17120-0225

Exempt Status Determination

Contract No.: ESA#201912162898 **Date:** 5/29/2020

Certifying Officer: Commissioner Morgan Boyd

Grantee Name: Lawrence County

Address:
430 Court Street
New Castle, PA 16101

Funding Source: ☐ CDBG ☒ HOME ☐ ESG ☐ NSP ☐ ARC ☐ CDBG-DR

For information about this request contact: Michael Hughes

Phone No./Email 724-656-0090 Ext.5914

Brief Description of your project:
Lawrence County will provide moderate housing rehabilitation to eligible low-income residents of Bedford, Butler, Lawrence, McKean, and Mercer Counties per DCED Housing Rehabilitation Guide. Lawrence County Social Services, Inc.(LCSS) is contracted with Lawrence County to administer this grant.

I hereby certify that the abovementioned project has been reviewed and determined to be an Exempt activity per 24 CFR 58.34(a) as follows:

Check all that apply (indicate with " √")

	1. Environmental & other studies, resource identification & the development of plans & strategies;
	2. Information and financial services;
✓	3. Administrative and management activities;
	4. Public services that will not have a physical impact or result in any physical changes, including but not limited to services concerned with employment, crime prevention, child care, health, drug abuse, education, counseling, energy conservation and welfare or recreational needs;
	5. Inspections and testing of properties for hazards or defects;
	6. Purchase of insurance;
	7. Purchase of tools;
	8. Engineering or design costs;
	9. Technical assistance and training;
	10. Assistance for temporary or permanent improvements that do not alter environmental conditions and are limited to protection, repair, or restoration activities necessary only to control or arrest the effects from disasters or imminent threats to public safety including those resulting from physical deterioration;
	11. Payment of principal and interest on loans made or obligations guaranteed by HUD;
	12. Any of the categorical exclusions listed in Sec. 58.35(a) provided that there are no circumstances that require compliance with any other Federal laws and authorities cited in Sec. 58.5.

If your project falls into any of the above categories, no Request for Release of Funds (RROF) is required. This form is to be submitted to DCED. The responsible entity must also maintain this document as a written record of the environmental review undertaken under this phase for each project.

Compliance Documentation Checklist
24 CFR 58.6

Grant Recipient: Lawrence County Project Name: HOME Program-Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation

Project Description (Include all actions which are either geographically or functionally related):

Lawrence County will provide moderate housing rehabilitation to eligible low-income residents of Bedford, Butler, Lawrence, McKean, and Mercer Counties per DCED Housing Rehabilitation Guide. Lawrence County Social Services, Inc..(LCSS) is contracted with Lawrence County to a

*This checklist is only pertaining to #3

Level of Environmental Review Determination (indicate with "√"): ☑ (1) ☐ (2) ☐ (3) ☐ (4) ☐ (5)

Select One: (1) Exempt per 24 CFR 58.34, or (2) Categorically Excluded not subject to statutes per § 58.35(b), or (3) Categorically Excluded subject to statutes per § 58.35(a), or (4) Environmental Assessment per § 58.36, or (5) EIS per 40 CFR 1500

In addition to the duties under the laws and authorities specified in 58.5 for assumption by Responsible Entities (RE) under the laws cited in 58.1(b), RE must comply with the following requirements. Applicability of the following requirements does not trigger the certification and release of funds procedure under this Part or preclude exemption of an activity under 58.34 (a) (12) and/or the applicability of 58.35(b). However, the RE remains responsible for addressing the following requirements in its ERR and meeting these requirements, where applicable, regardless of whether the activity is exempt under 58.34 or Categorically Excluded under 58.35 (a) or (b).

(a) Federal Flood Insurance Purchase Requirements (do not apply to funds from Federal formula grants made to a State).

1. Does the project involve acquisition or construction (including rehabilitation) of structures in a community identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as having special flood hazard areas (100 year and 500 year floodplains)? Yes ☐ No ☑ If "Yes," go to (a)(2). If "No," go to Question (b).
2. Is the project located in 100 year flood plain (500 year floodplain for "critical" actions*)? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "Yes," go to (a) (3). If "No," go to Question (b).
3. Is the community in which the project is located ( ) participating in the National Flood Insurance Program or, ( ) has less than a year passed since FEMA notified the community concerning such hazards. (Please check one of the above depending on the situation) Yes ☐ No ☐. Documentation of participation in the National Flood Insurance Program can be found in the Environmental Review Record.
4. *As defined in the U.S. Water Resources Council's Floodplain Management Guidelines for Implementing Executive Order 11988.

(b) Coastal Barriers Resources

Is the project to be undertaken located in the coastal Barrier Resources System, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 3501)?
Yes ☐ No ☑. If "Yes," Federal financial assistance may not be provided. If "No," then go to Question (c).

(c) Projects located in Close Proximity to Airports Contained on the HUD list of 24 CFR Part 51D Covered Airports.

Does the project involve assistance, subsidy, or insurance for the purchase or sale of an existing property in a Runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone as defined in 24 CFR Part 51D? Yes ☐ No ☑ If "Yes," the buyer must be advised that the property is in a runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone, what the implications of such a location are, and then there is a possibility that the property may, at a later date, be acquired by the airport operator. The buyer must sign a statement acknowledging receipt of this information. The implementation of this requirement must be made a condition in the environmental review findings and recommendations for this project.

By signing below the Responsible Entity certifies in writing that each activity or project is categorically excluded and meets the conditions specified for such exclusions under section 24 CFR 58.34(a). Please keep a copy of this determination in your project files.

Honorable Morgan Boyd
Responsible Entity Certifying Official Name

Chairman Commissioner, Lawrence County
Title (please print)

Responsible Entity Certifying Official Signature

May 29, 2020
Date