



## Sustainable Solutions

### Client

Federal Emergency Management Agency

### Location

Gulf Coast, USA

*“CH2M HILL did not have a great deal of experience in FEMA disaster response prior to Katrina, so there were a lot of things that we learned on the fly, like how to track our work and format our reports to be compatible with FEMA.”*

Ed Cannon,  
Project Manager,  
CH2M HILL

## Emergency Response and Support for Hurricane Katrina Victims

### Project Highlights

Within days of Hurricane Katrina crashing into the U.S. Gulf Coast, CH2M HILL employees were onsite to provide temporary housing, vital infrastructure, and utilities and maintenance support for displaced residents of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. This was especially challenging because CH2M HILL employees from offices in the impacted areas were among those displaced. In total, 600 CH2M HILL employees installed 24,000 temporary homes, conducted 30,000 site assessments, helped with site remediation, and coordinated group and individual trailer site placement for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

CH2M HILL was responsible for identifying, designing, and constructing group sites, as well as installing, maintaining, and deactivating temporary housing units. Trailers were brought to an interim staging area between storage and delivery sites, where a truck customized with a mobile generator was used to fully power trailers and test all systems including pressure (air and water), gas and electric. Units were arranged in the staging area and color coded based on functionality to speed up the installation process, reduce potential occupancy delays, and minimize return visits by installers.

### Sustainable Components

- Provided housing for displaced victims
- Site remediation to ensure safe living conditions
- Unofficial coordination of contributions of food and clothes to people impacted by the storm