Disaster Recovery Initiative U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Public Law 109-234

The Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery

Louisiana Office of Community Development, Division of Administration

Louisiana Recovery Authority

Proposed Action Plan Amendment 1 (Second Allocation) – Changes to the State Building Infrastructure Program

Public Comment: December 29th, 2006 Original Submission: April 25th, 2007

June 19th, 2007





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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. State Building Infrastructure Program	. 2
Appendix 1 – Summary and State's Response to Public Comments	. 3

1. State Building Infrastructure Program

Eligible Activity: Waiver – Federal Register 6/14/2006

National Objective: Benefit of Low and Moderate income persons, or elimination

of slums and blight, or urgent need.

Activity Amount: \$135 Million

State buildings and other properties suffered over \$1.5 billion in damages due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. While the repair costs for much of this damage are eligible for FEMA Public Assistance, many costs that resulted from the storms are not eligible. These include, but are not limited to: uninsured and underinsured damages; insurance deductibles and improvements for code compliance; as well as repairs that were made necessary by storm damage but not eligible for FEMA Public Assistance.

The State wishes to amend the State Building Infrastructure Program as described in the original Action Plan for Disaster Recovery, to include FEMA-ineligible repair costs as an eligible expenditure under that program for damage to buildings, infrastructure and contents, as applicable. The State wishes to add \$135 million to this program to cover the additional costs of this expansion of eligibility, to the original allocation of \$142.5 million increasing the total program budget to \$277.5 million.

In order to be eligible for funding under this program:

- 1. repairs must be made necessary as a result of damages caused by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita;
- 2. projects must be consistent with the prioritizing decision tree described in the initial Action Plan;

As stated in the initial action plan, each project funded will meet one of the three national objectives, with emphasis on meeting the primary national objective of benefit to low and moderate income persons. Until applications are received and service areas and beneficiaries are known, the specific national objective cannot be determined with precision.

This activity is considered to be a low risk activity. Monitoring will be performed by the Office of Community Development staff in accordance with the original State Building Infrastructure Program and the monitoring plan as described in the original Action Plan.

Appendix 1: Summary and State's Response to Public Comments for Proposed Action Plan Amendment 1

* *Note:* The Medical Center of Louisiana-New Orleans program was published for Public Comment with this Amendment, but was not approved by the Louisiana Legislature. It has been removed from the final version of this amendment.

This appendix summarizes the public comments received during the public comment period from December 29th, 2006 through January 8th, 2007.

Comments were also received through a public hearing of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. The transcript of the Joint Budget Committee Hearing is available through the House of Representatives Budget Committee staff. The LRA Board met on January 12th, 2007 and approved this Amendment. The Louisiana Legislature also reviewed and approved this Amendment on February 16th, 2007.

Comments on State Building Infrastructure Program (FEMA ineligible costs)

No comments were submitted on this program.