

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

FEMA

January 31, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major P. May
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region IV

Tony Russell
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region VI

FROM: Sandra K. Knight, PhD, PE
Deputy Associate Administrator for Mitigation

SUBJECT: Disaster Specific Guidance (DSG): Eligibility Criteria for Deadline
Removal from Limited Exception for Retroactive Approvals under
the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for DR-1603 and
1607 in Louisiana and DR-1604 in Mississippi

The purpose of this memo is to remove the March 16, 2008, deadline for the DSG allowance for residential structures damaged by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita in Louisiana and Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi. This action permits otherwise eligible HMGP activities that were initiated without prior approval to be reimbursed under the existing DSG, and in accordance with the legislative intent of P.L. III-5, Title VI, Section 602 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which states:

The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may not prohibit or restrict the use of funds designated under the hazard mitigation grant program for damage caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita is the homeowner who is an applicant for assistance under such program commenced work otherwise eligible for hazard mitigation grant program assistance under section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c) without approval in writing from the Administrator.

No eligibility criteria are waived by this legislation. Only eligible costs associated with residential structures damaged by Katrina and Rita, and included in the DSG allowance, will be reimbursed.

If you have any questions, please contact James Walke, Director, Risk Reduction Division, by telephone at (202)-646-2752.

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