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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



October 14, 2008

James W. Stark
Director, Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office
Federal Emergency Management Agency
1250 Poydras St. Box 43
New Orleans, LA 70113

Dear Mr. Stark:

As the Governor's Authorized Representative, I am following up on the Direct Housing Mission request dated October 1, 2008. My agency was advised to provide supplementary housing solution information based on the urgent needs of the parishes most heavily impacted by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Please consider this letter the first of two supplementary requests.

On September 1, 2008, and September 12, 2008, respectively, Louisiana was severely damaged by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Singularly, each was a major disaster; combined, these storms amount to a catastrophic event for the state. At the time of these two hurricanes, Louisiana was in the midst of recovery from the largest disasters in U.S. history – Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

LRA staff has been in contact with parish leaders impacted by the 2008 storms to educate them about the state-led Joint Housing Taskforce and the new opportunities for temporary housing solutions outlined in FEMA's 2008 Disaster Housing Strategy guidance. We have shared with our parish leadership that the more ideal solution is to work with FEMA to secure rental resources or hotel/motel units where available.

While these are the most ideal interim housing for residents, in many parishes, especially the hardest hit in our coastal areas, solutions such as affordable rental units and hotel/motels are not available. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita destroyed more than 250,000 homes and at least 80,000 rental units. While the state is working aggressively to rebuild these units, less than a third of those units have come back online in the past three years. Even fewer have remained affordable. Additionally, the areas most impacted by the 2008 storms are mostly rural and had few rental units to begin with.

Working with FEMA data, the state has identified the five most impacted areas in greatest need of immediate housing solutions. The parishes of Cameron, Lafourche, and Terrebonne parishes and the towns of Jean Lafitte and Grand Isle (Jefferson Parish) have very few alternative housing solutions such as rental resources or available hotel/motel units. The State of Louisiana has worked in direct partnership with the local parish officials in these areas to determine their interim housing needs.

All of the parishes have made it clear that it is critical that commute distances be kept to a minimum so they remain in close proximity to their jobs and communities so they may work, attend school and rebuild. Many of the residents in need of temporary housing solutions while they rebuild are the employees of the state's seafood and oil and gas industries which depend on their workforce to be nearby. Housing solutions outside of a short driving radius are not viable options.

In accordance with FEMA's 2008 Disaster Housing Plan, the state is making its first of its requests for the following interim housing solutions by parish and town. What follows is an outline of requests by parish.

- Cameron Parish: More than 1,800 homes were damaged in Cameron Parish displacing more than 4,000 residents. The parish requests a mix of options to provide for immediate, short-term and long-term temporary housing for its residents while they rebuild. The first is that recreational vehicles to be placed on residential properties. An alternative is that vouchers be given to residents in order to have the ability to purchase recreational vehicles to place on their property as they rebuild. The state will work with the parish to assist residents to understand that this option may count against their receipt of housing rebuilding funds from FEMA. In the absence of these alternatives, the parish is requesting mobile homes or park models for placement on group or commercial sites for approximately 2,000 residents. Additionally, the parish requests a waiver of the elevation requirement for lower Cameron for Temporary Housing Units placed on group or commercial sites for a period of 180 days. The parish also seeks alternatives to replace and build rental units in the parish. Please see the attached letter from Cameron Parish Policy Jury for more specifics on their interim and permanent housing solutions.

- Terrebonne Parish: More than 3,000 homes and 200 rental units were damaged in Terrebonne Parish displacing more than 12,500 residents. Approximately 6,000 residents will have to remain temporarily relocated from their homes. Terrebonne Parish requests the following interim, short-term and longer-term temporary resources: utilization of available rental units and the purchase of 200 travel trailers owned by a neighboring parish to be reimbursed by FEMA. In the absence of these alternatives, the parish is requesting travel trailers, mobile homes or park models for approximately 1,500 residents to be placed on individual properties or in group sites. Additionally, the parish requests a waiver of the elevation requirement for Temporary Housing Units for a period of 180 days. The parish also requests, as outlined in their letter, a series of alternative models including Katrina or Mississippi cottages, as well as resources for elevation, demolition and rebuilding. The parish also seeks alternatives to replace and build rental units in the parish. Please see the attached letter from Terrebonne Parish for more specifics on their requested interim and permanent housing solutions.

- Lafourche Parish: Lafourche had few homes completely destroyed, but also suffers from a severe shortage of alternative housing resources. They are requesting alternative housing solution for approximately 50 residents. Like other parishes, commuting outside of the parish is not an option for most residents that are employed fulltime and need to remain close to their jobs and schools for their children.

- Jefferson:
 - Grand Isle was severely damaged by the storm surge of both storms. Most of the town's homes are second homes, but for the small year-round residential population there is a need for alternative housing solution in the absence of rental resources. The town has requested mobile homes or park models for 65 households. Additionally, the parish requests a waiver of the elevation requirement for Temporary Housing Units for a period of 180 days. The
 - Town of Jean Lafitte – Up to 1,000 homes damaged, approximately 50 of which were rental units. The town has requested mobile homes or park models for 500 households. Additionally, the parish requests a waiver of the elevation requirement for Temporary Housing Units for a period of 180 days.

Below is a breakdown of available housing resources in the parish to date:

Parish/Town	# that will Temporarily Relocate	Estimated Homes with some damage	Number of available rental units at or below Fair Market Rent as of 10/6/08	Number of available hotel/motel rooms as of 10/8/08	Requests Travel Trailers, Mobile Homes and/or Park Models	Quantity
Cameron*	744	1,510	1	0	Yes	2,000
Terrebonne	6,000	3,218	9	0	Yes	1,500
Lafourche	1,160	5,848	15	5	Yes	50
Grand Isle	N/A	N/A	0	0	Yes	65
Jean Lafitte	N/A	1,000	0	0	Yes	50

* Only 63% of parish inspections completed at time of data collection.

I am grateful for the support your staff has provided and request your prompt consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Rainwater
Executive Director

MAGNUS MCGEE
PRESIDENT
STEPHEN RACCA
VICE PRESIDENT
EARNESTINE T. HORN
ADMINISTRATOR
BONNIE W. CONNER
SECRETARY-TREASURER

POLICE JURY
PARISH OF CAMERON

P.O. BOX 1280
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DISTRICT 2
STEPHEN RACCA
DISTRICT 3
CHARLES FRECHT III
DISTRICT 4
THOMAS WICKHAM
DISTRICT 5
SCOTT TRAHAN
DISTRICT 6
JIM BERTSCHER
DISTRICT 7
DAVID PARADE

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Paul Rainwater, Executive Director
Louisiana Recovery Authority

October 13, 2008

Paul Rainwater, Executive Director
Louisiana Recovery Authority
150 Third Street, Suite 200
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

Dear Mr. Rainwater:

As the Police Jury President of Cameron Parish, I support the request the Louisiana Recovery Authority has made to FEMA to secure the housing solutions outlined below. I look forward to working in partnership to secure immediate, short and long term housing solutions for the residents of my Parish.

1800 homes were damaged in Hurricane Ike, displacing more than 4000 residents. Based on the level of damage, it will take approximately 18 months to repair and/or rebuild.

I request the following interim (generally 18 months) housing solutions to serve approximately 2000 residents:

- 1) Recreation vehicles placed on home site while resident is rebuilding
- 2) Voucher to residents for a recreation vehicle, (FEMA will not be held responsible if anything goes wrong)
- 3) Group mobile home sites, (must be allowed in A and V zones)

Clarification is needed from FEMA on the Park Model Mobile Homes, (can they be considered a recreation vehicle?) They measure 10' X 38', which is less than 400 sq. ft.

I request the following permanent housing solutions to serve approximately 300 residents:

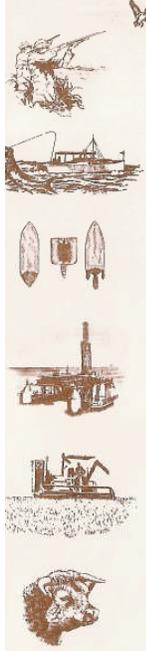
- 1) Innovative, affordable housing, (we are currently viewing different types of housing and would like to present our findings to you in the near future)

It is imperative that these resources be secured within close proximity to the jobs and communities of each resident.

Thank you for your timely attention to this request and for understanding the urgency of the situation. Again, I look forward to working closely with the LRA and FEMA to move quickly to execute the housing solutions identified above.

Sincerely,

Magnus McGee, President
CAMERON PARISH POLICE JURY





MICHEL H. CLAUDET
PARISH PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT
TERREBONNE PARISH CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT
P. O. Box 6097
HOUMA, LOUISIANA 70361-6097



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October 10, 2008

Paul Rainwater
Executive Director
Louisiana Recovery Authority
150 Third Street, Suite 200
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

Dear Mr. Rainwater:

As the Parish President of Terrebonne, I support the request the Louisiana Recovery Authority has made to FEMA to secure the housing solutions outlined below. I look forward to working in partnership to secure immediate, short and long term housing solutions for the residents of my parish.

3,018 homes and 200 rental units were damaged in Hurricane Gustav/Ike, displacing more than 12,500 residents. Based on the level of damage, it will take approximately 18 – 24 months to repair and/or rebuild.

I request the following interim (generally up to 18 months) housing solutions to serve approximately 6,000 residents:

- Utilize all available rental units
- Purchase travel trailers which will be reimbursed by FEMA (200)
- Provide FEMA Travel Trailers
- Provide Mobile Homes (Park Series), waive elevation requirement for 180 days

I request the following permanent housing solutions to serve approximately 4,000 residents:

- Katrina or Mississippi Cottages
- Authorize permanent Elevated and Code Compliant Housing
- Accelerate the addition HMGP 1603 Fund including 11 mil of elevation projects
- Appropriate 40 mil HMGP Funds for Demo/Rebuild, elevations relocation and buyout projects. Prefer CDBG buyout process such as in Roadhome

It is imperative that these resources be secured within close proximity to the jobs and communities of each resident.

Paul Rainwater
October 10, 2008
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Thank you for your timely attention to this request and for understanding the urgency of the situation. Again, I look forward to working closely with the LRA and FEMA to move quickly to execute the housing solutions identified above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michel H. Claudet
Parish President

Cc: Council Reading Files
Patrick Gordon, Parish Manager