



# FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Transitional Recovery Office  
#1 Scine Court, Suite 109  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70114

November 13, 2006

Colonel Thomas Kirkpatrick  
State Coordinating Officer  
State of Louisiana  
415 North 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: FEMA DR-1603/1607-LA  
Mosquito Abatement

Dear Colonel Kirkpatrick:

FEMA recognizes that the hurricanes caused a dramatic increase in mosquito population in some inhabited areas of the State. In addition, increased mosquito presence may have continued for an extended period if standing water persisted, normal drainage patterns were altered by the hurricanes, or standing water was replenished by repeated rainfall or flooding. When there is a serious health hazard caused by the disaster, emergency actions that are essential to saving lives and protecting public health and safety may be eligible for reimbursement by FEMA. Federally funded emergency protective measures are not intended for long-term. After careful consideration, I have concluded that 12 months from the date of the disaster declaration is the maximum period of time that I will support for mosquito abatement.

FEMA authorizes mosquito abatement assistance according to the guidance and eligibility criteria set forth in Information Sheet #11 (Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Mosquito Abatement Costs – Guidance for Reimbursement) and national guidance on the subject (most recently, FEMA policy #9523.10 entitled Eligibility of Vector Control (Mosquito Abatement)), which articulates national guidance and practices. It is clear from both sources that reimbursement must be for only incremental costs. For your use in validating that only incremental costs have been claimed in the past and evaluating any requests for the designated period that have not yet been made, I am enclosing a listing of Project Worksheets whose project titles include “mosquito” or “vector.”

Please do not hesitate to call if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

James W. Stark

Director

Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office

Enclosure

cc: John Connolly, Chief, Public Assistance Section  
Gil Jamieson, Deputy Director, GCRO