

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office
One Seine Court
New Orleans, LA 70114
(504) 762-2018 office
(504) 762-2899 fax



FEMA

January 25, 2008

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

Re: Request for Permanent Work Blanket Extension
FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA

Dear Colonel Kirkpatrick:

This is in response to your letter dated December 4, 2007, requesting a one-year blanket extension to the existing deadlines for permanent work projects in the established coastal parishes of Cameron, Vermilion, Iberia, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Orleans, Jefferson, St. Tammany, Washington, and Calcasieu. The current deadlines for permanent work for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are February 28, 2008 and March 22, 2008, respectively.

Your request for a blanket extension of permanent projects in the coastal parishes until February 28, 2009 for 1603 and March 22, 2009 for 1607 is denied. I understand that there are a number of permanent projects that are not finished or have not begun construction; however, the majority of the Category C-G PWs have already been completed, and for every project that remains, your staff should have intimate knowledge of the development and anticipated completion of the scope of work.

For each project that has work to be completed, you should have the description of the project, justification for the necessity of an extension, the start date for permanent work, progress reports, the target date of completion, and any anticipated setbacks that may prolong the completion of the permanent repairs. Communication with the Applicant to justify the necessity of an extension past the current deadlines is an essential responsibility that your team is obligated to maintain throughout this recovery operation.

Please also note that FEMA provides grant monies for this project coordination through Category 'Z' PWs and Statutory Administrative Costs. Additionally, applicants also receive funding through administrative allowances for requesting, obtaining, and administering public assistance.

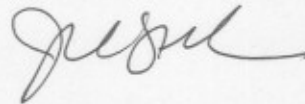
Colonel Kirkpatrick

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In conclusion, with FEMA providing supporting staff and financial compensation for the PA program administration that your office is required to perform, I expect that GOHSEP will continue to fulfill this role throughout the remainder of this operation. By holding the applicants accountable for the progress of their permanent projects, both GOHSEP and FEMA are ensuring an expedited PA process. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Stark", written in a cursive style.

Jim Stark

Director

Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office