

State of West Virginia

Addendum to Fiscal Year 2008 Action Plan for Disaster Recovery (Checklist Items 9, 10 and 11)

Overall Plan for Disaster Recovery

The “overall plan for disaster recovery” for the FEMA designated counties from the June 19, 2008 flood consists of the following:

The West Virginia Development Office (WVDO) will work with Homeland Security Office of Emergency Services (OES) in determining the eligible Local Unit of Government Grant Recipients (LUG) to receive a portion of the more than \$3 million in funding supplied by HUD. OES will assist the WVDO with, among other things, promoting short- and long-term recovery planning at the state and local levels, especially land use decisions that reflect responsible flood plain management, removal of regulatory barriers to reconstruction, and promote prior coordination with planning requirements of other state and Federal programs and entities. “The State is accepting the Hazard Mitigation Plans approved by OES as noted in the local citizen participation plan.”

The Regional Planning and Development Councils (RPDC) will assist the LUG in determining the possible high priority projects that may be eligible for funding. “Disaster grant funds under this grant will be distributed without regard to a community’s status in other CDBG programs. Entitlement communities and Indian tribes are eligible for Disaster Grant funding, but there are no entitlement communities or Indian tribes within the FEMA designated counties”. (9: c/d/e)

Construction Methods, Materials, and Enforcement Issues

“The State will encourage construction methods that emphasize all construction methods be of high quality and durability, energy efficient, sustainable, mold resistant, and will promote enactment and enforcement of modern building codes and mitigation of flood risk where appropriate”. The State will work with the LUG regarding the bidding process in acquiring the best available contractor and meeting the SCBG federal rules and regulations regarding procurement. In coordination with FEMA and OES, the state will encourage adequate, flood resistant housing for all income groups that lived in the disaster affected areas prior to June of 2008. All proposed activities must meet one of the HUD-required national objectives. However, the following objectives are priorities: reduction in the number of repetitive loss structures; reduction in the number of substantially damaged structures; reduction in the number of structures located in the floodplain; and other eligible criteria outlined under 2008 Supplemental Community Development Block Grant Appropriations, Federal Register dated September 11, 2008. (9: f/g/h/i)

Emergency Shelters, Homelessness and Housing

Should an applicant qualify as an eligible grantee in a project that involves the need for emergency shelter and/or transitional housing, the State will work with the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO). The GOEO oversees the Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) which is designed to provide entitlement funds for the rehabilitation, essential services, and program operation costs of buildings intended for the purpose of sheltering homeless persons and their families. In addition, ESGP funds may be used to assist shelters in providing supportive services for operations, utilities, insurance costs, client transportation, medical assistance, crisis intervention, counseling, nutrition, clothing, and homeless prevention assistance.

Should an applicant qualify as an eligible grantee in a project that involves the prevention of low-income individuals and families with children from becoming homeless, the state office will work with the West Virginia Housing and Development Fund (WVHDF). The primary objective of the WVHDF is the HOME Investment Partnership Program, or HOME Program, as established under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (NAHA), as amended, and implemented at 24 CFR Part 92, is to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing, primarily rental housing. (9: j/k/l/m)

Preventing Fraud, Abuse and Duplication of Funds and Benefits

The state will enforce monitor compliance using the State SCBG requirements at 24 CFR Part 570, subpart I as it applies to the use and management of these funds. All monitoring standards and procedures including continual quality assurance, investigation, and internal audit functions will be under the supervision of the Director of Community Development of the West Virginia Development Office (WVDO). The state will ensure that these federal dollars will be included in audits of grantees identified as requiring a single audit. As provided for in the Supplemental Appropriations Act, the funds may not be used for activities reimbursable by or for which funds are made available by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the Army Corps of Engineers. Nor may they be used as match for those programs. (10: a/b/c/d/e)

The state has checks and balances set up to process the periodic occurrences of procurement, accounting, and management of fund transfer, internal audit functions and any other reporting task that is required for continual quality assurance of administering this Disaster Recovery Grant. The quarterly reports provided via the DRGR system will be posted on the WVDO's web site for citizen review within 3 days of the report's submission to HUD.

The state has in place a project administrator, project accountant, a grant program manager and a program development director in stair-step fashion all providing control against fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, especially with respect to auditing procurement and accountability. The state will institute risk analysis for on-site monitoring of grantee management of the grants and of the specific uses of funds.

Through partnering with the RPDC and OES, the state will assist LUG's and their sub-recipients, sub-grantees, contractors, and any other entity responsible for administering activities under this grant. These agencies are very experienced and proven to assist LUG's in all phases of managing and administering federal grant projects. As with the normal CDBG/SCBG financial requirements, the state will continue collaborating with the HUD Office of Inspector General to implement appropriate oversight of these funds. (10: f/g)

Method of Distribution (Cont'd) and Established Thresholds

The state has established July 31, 2009, as their application deadline due date. All applications must be post marked by this date to be eligible for funding consideration. In addition to the earlier notifications, a recent e-mail and memorandum has gone out to all RPDC's and affected LUG's to remind them of the application deadline date. All applications determined to be eligible and to meet a national objective shall advance and be reviewed based on criteria noted earlier in original DRI Action Plan. Please be advised that due to the amount of dollars available for funding and the urgency with which these dollars must be spent, the following review criteria will be emphasized during the application review process:

- (1) Existing open SCBG's that are not proceeding according to the timeframe established in the grant agreement
- (2) Readiness of the project to proceed
- (3) Commitment of all other funding sources

The state reserves the right to disqualify any application where the applicant or any related parties has a history of disregarding the policies, procedures, or staff directives associated with administering any State or Federal programs. Further, the applicant must have resolved all previous state and federal monitoring requirements. (11: c/d)