

Response to Query
Amendment to FEMA's Disaster Assistance Policy for Rehabilitation Assistance for
Levees and other Flood Control Works
August 6, 2009

On August 6, 2009, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) amended its February 2009 policy on "Rehabilitation Assistance for Levees and Other Flood Control Works." This clarification allows FEMA to provide financial assistance to state and local governments for eligible work associated with debris removal and flood fighting activities. This action is retroactive to February 25, 2009, when the revised policy went into effect.

The intent of the February 2009 policy was to provide guidance on what types of facilities and activities related to levees and flood control works are eligible for FEMA assistance in emergencies and disasters. Questions were raised regarding the revised policy since it was issued.

FEMA will continue to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to address these questions, and will issue a further revised version of the policy once this process is finalized. The final policy will be coordinated with the USACE, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and other stakeholders.

While this process is still ongoing, the amendment ensures that during this process there will be no gap in flood fighting and repair assistance to impacted communities.

Question regarding this policy should be referred to FEMA Headquarters Public Affairs News Desk at 202-646-4600.