

Public Assistance Pilot Program



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Background

- On October 4, 2006, President Bush signed the DHS Appropriations Act.
- Directs FEMA to conduct a Public Assistance Pilot Program.
- Recommended pilot procedures **only apply** to debris removal (Cat A) and permanent work (Cat C-G).



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2006 Legislation

Goals of the legislation:

- Reduce costs to the Federal Government;
- Increase administrative flexibility; and
- Expedite the provision of assistance to States and local governments.



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2006 Legislation - Participation

- Participation is open to States.
- Federally recognized Indian Tribes.
- State agencies, local governments, other local government entities.
- Private nonprofit applicants are **not** eligible to participate in the pilot program.
 - Educational, Emergency, Medical, Utilities, Custodial, Irrigation, other essential government services.



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Implementation

- June 1, 2007 – Rollout Pilot Program.
- June 1, 2007 through **December 31, 2008** – Implement Pilot Procedures.
- March 31, 2009 – Submit Report to Congress.



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Pilot Program Procedures



Grants on the
Basis of Estimates
(Cat A, C-G)



Increased Federal
Share Incentive
(Cat A)



Debris Recycling
(Cat A)



Force Account Labor
(Cat A)



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Key Pilot Program Procedures

Grants on the Basis of Estimates (Cat A, C-G)



- Large Projects up to \$500k
- Paid on Estimate
- Payment of Federal Share as Soon as Practicable After Approval
- Work Must be Completed
- Applicant Can Keep Under-runs
- No Appeal Process



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Key Pilot Program Procedures

Increased Federal Share Incentive (Cat A)



Five (5) percent increase in the Federal cost share, not to exceed 100 percent, to State and Local Governments with:

- FEMA-approved Debris Management Plan and
- At least two pre-qualified debris and wreckage removal contractors identified prior to a disaster.



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Key Pilot Program Procedures

Financial Incentive to Recycle Debris (Cat A)



Applicant retains revenue from the salvage value of recyclable disaster debris.



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Key Pilot Program Procedures

Force Account Labor (Cat A)



Reimburse the straight- or regular-time salaries and benefits of staff performing debris-related activities.



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