

Community Disaster Loans; 83.538, Cora Brown Fund Program; 83.539, Crisis Counseling; 83.540, Disaster Legal Services Program; 83.541, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 83.542, Fire Suppression Assistance; 83.543, Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program; 83.544, Public Assistance Grants; 83.545, Disaster Housing Program; 83.548, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program)

Lacy E. Suiter,

Assistant Director, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate.

[FR Doc. 01-17525 Filed 7-12-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-02-P

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

[FEMA-1369-DR]

Wisconsin; Amendment No. 8 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice amends the notice of a major disaster for the State of Wisconsin (FEMA-1369-DR), dated May 11, 2001, and related determinations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madge Dale, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-5920.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the incident period for this disaster is closed effective July 6, 2001.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 83.537, Community Disaster Loans; 83.538, Cora Brown Fund Program; 83.539, Crisis Counseling; 83.540, Disaster Legal Services Program; 83.541, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 83.542, Fire Suppression Assistance; 83.543, Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program; 83.544, Public Assistance Grants; 83.545, Disaster Housing Program; 83.548, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program)

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[FR Doc. 01-17526 Filed 7-12-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-02-P

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

[FEMA-1369-DR]

Wisconsin; Amendment No. 9 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice amends the notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Wisconsin, (FEMA-1369-DR), dated May 11, 2001, and related determinations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madge Dale, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-5920.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of a major disaster declaration for the State of Wisconsin is hereby amended to include the following areas among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the catastrophe declared a major disaster by the President in his declaration of May 11, 2001:

Clark County for Public Assistance.
Barron County for Individual Assistance (already designated for Public Assistance).

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 83.537, Community Disaster Loans; 83.538, Cora Brown Fund Program; 83.539, Crisis Counseling; 83.540, Disaster Legal Services Program; 83.541, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 83.542, Fire Suppression Assistance; 83.543, Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program; 83.544, Public Assistance Grants; 83.545, Disaster Housing Program; 83.548, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program)

Lacy E. Suiter,

Assistant Director, Readiness, Response and Recovery Directorate.

[FR Doc. 01-17527 Filed 7-12-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-02-P

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Notice of the State Management of Public Assistance Operations in Small Disasters

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We (FEMA) give notice that we will devolve major management responsibility of the Public Assistance Program in small disasters to interested

States with demonstrated capability beginning on or after the date this notice is published. Interested Indian Tribal Governments, which are acting as their own Grantee, are also invited to participate in this program. We award Public Assistance grants, which supplement community assets in the recovery of State, tribal, local and certain eligible private non-profit infrastructure when the President declares an emergency or major disaster. The change in the program management does not constitute a change to the process by which assistance is provided nor does it constitute a change in benefits under the law or regulation.

DATES: This notice is effective July 13, 2001. We invite comments on this initiative, particularly on the criteria for State selection. Comments received by September 11, 2001 will be considered when making future program revisions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James A. Walke, P.E., Public Assistance Branch Chief, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington DC 20472, 202-646-2751 (phone), 202-646-3304 (fax), or James.Walke@fema.gov (e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121, provides for the award of grants to assist in the repair and reconstruction of community infrastructure. In April 2000, we convened a task force of FEMA and State officials to explore the option of allowing capable States to manage the Public Assistance Program in small disasters. The purpose of this initiative is to streamline disaster operations and enhance States' program capabilities. This initiative does not change eligibility requirements or the amount of assistance available. Small disasters are those with sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a major disaster declaration by the President, but are limited in scope and size as defined by the following: statewide infrastructure damage is less than \$2 per capita; or, total estimated infrastructure damage is less than \$15 million; or, categories of work are limited to debris removal and emergency protective measures; or, the Public Assistance operation is within a State's capability to manage (varies by State). The task force developed a concept of operations, a sample operational agreement, a list of FEMA and State roles and responsibilities, and a list of frequently asked questions to guide program implementation.

Participation in the State Management of Small Disasters program is voluntary. If a State is interested in managing a disaster, it must specify this in the

Governor's request for a disaster declaration. FEMA will determine whether a State is capable of managing a disaster. Interested States should have recent Federal disaster experience, adequate staff, a current management plan, an adequate fiscal accounting system, the ability to meet deadlines for grant management activities, environmental knowledge and awareness, and a commitment to training. FEMA regional offices and States should work together before a disaster to determine capability and ensure that States meet selection criteria. When a State elects to manage the disaster and FEMA determines that the State is capable, FEMA and the affected State will enter into an operational agreement. The operational agreement defines the roles and responsibilities of the State and FEMA as well as the processes and procedures in effect under the agreement.

Under this initiative, a capable State provides staff to manage the Public Assistance Program operation, including project eligibility reviews, process control, and resource allocation on small disasters. We will provide a minimum number of FEMA staff to support the operation, which will include: Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO), Public Assistance Officer (PAO), Deputy PAO, data entry specialist, and environmental specialist. We will retain obligation authority, final approval of environmental and historic preservation reviews, and will help the State to the extent that the State requests such assistance. FEMA and the State will conduct on-going quality control checks of a sample of Project Worksheets to ensure accurate eligibility decisions, scopes of work, and cost estimates.

In July 2000, FEMA published a **Federal Register** Notice regarding the program and plans for a field test. Subsequently, the concept was pilot-tested in three selected disasters that were declared in November 2000 (FEMA-1344-DR-FL), January 2001 (FEMA-1347-DR-AZ), and February 2001 (FEMA-1349-DR-OK). A FEMA/State team evaluated the Public Assistance recovery operation in each of these disasters to determine the success of the pilot program. The teams found that the State Management of Small Disasters concept and its implementation in the field were successful and identified additional refinements before full program implementation. The teams cited the necessity of adhering to State selection criteria and providing training to State

personnel as two important keys to the program's success.

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Dated: July 6, 2001.

Lacy E. Suiter,

Assistant Director, Readiness, Response, and Recovery Directorate.

[FR Doc. 01-17533 Filed 7-12-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-01-P

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

[No. 2001-N-10]

Federal Home Loan Bank Members Selected for Community Support Review

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Board.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) is announcing the Federal Home Loan Bank (Bank) members it has selected for the 2000-01 sixth quarter review cycle under the Finance Board's community support requirement regulation. This notice also prescribes the deadline by which Bank members selected for review must submit Community Support Statements to the Finance Board.

DATES: Bank members selected for the 2000-01 sixth quarter review cycle under the Finance Board's community support requirement regulation must submit completed Community Support Statements to the Finance Board on or before August 24, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Bank members selected for the 2000-01 sixth quarter review cycle under the Finance Board's community support requirement regulation must submit completed Community Support Statements to the Finance Board either by regular mail at the Office of Policy, Research and Analysis, Program Assistance Division, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006, or by electronic mail at fitzgeralde@fhfb.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emma J. Fitzgerald, Program Analyst, Office of Policy, Research and Analysis, Program Assistance Division, by telephone at 202/408-2874, by electronic mail at fitzgeralde@fhfb.gov, or by regular mail at the Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006. A telecommunications device for deaf persons (TDD) is available at 202/408-2579.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Selection for Community Support Review

Section 10(g)(1) of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (Bank Act) requires the Finance Board to promulgate regulations establishing standards of community investment or service Bank members must meet in order to maintain access to long-term advances. See 12 U.S.C. 1430(g)(1). The regulations promulgated by the Finance Board must take into account factors such as the Bank member's performance under the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 (CRA), 12 U.S.C. 2901 *et seq.*, and record of lending to first-time homebuyers. See 12 U.S.C. 1430(g)(2). Pursuant to the requirements of section 10(g) of the Bank Act, the Finance Board has promulgated a community support requirement regulation that establishes standards a Bank member must meet in order to maintain access to long-term advances, and review criteria the Finance Board must apply in evaluating a member's community support performance. See 12 CFR part 944. The regulation includes standards and criteria for the two statutory factors—CRA performance and record of lending to first-time homebuyers. 12 CFR 944.3. Only members subject to the CRA must meet the CRA standard. 12 CFR 944.3(b). All members, including those not subject to CRA, must meet the first-time homebuyer standard. 12 CFR 944.3(c).

Under the rule, the Finance Board selects approximately one-eighth of the members in each Bank district for community support review each calendar quarter. 12 CFR 944.2(a). The Finance Board will not review an institution's community support performance until it has been a Bank member for at least one year. Selection for review is not, nor should it be construed as, any indication of either the financial condition or the community support performance of the member.

Each Bank member selected for review must complete a Community Support Statement and submit it to the Finance Board by the August 24, 2001 deadline prescribed in this notice. 12 CFR 944.2(b)(1)(ii) and (c). On or before July 27, 2001, each Bank will notify the members in its district that have been selected for the 2000-01 sixth quarter community support review cycle that they must complete and submit to the Finance Board by the deadline a Community Support Statement. 12 CFR 944.2(b)(2)(i). The member's Bank will provide a blank Community Support Statement Form, which also is available on the Finance Board's web site: