



FEMA

September 6, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: George A. Robinson
Regional Administrator

FROM: Kevin Hannes
Federal Coordinating Officer
Disaster Recovery Manager
FEMA-4332-DR-TX

SUBJECT: 4332-DR-TX, Vector Control Policy Waiver

Through discussion with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the State of Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region 6, FEMA's usual Vector Control policy requirements have been suspended in the following areas:

- The requirement for state, tribal, or local officials to establish that the increased cost of measures taken for mosquito abatement activities related to Hurricane Harvey exceed the average amount of expenditures for their usual abatement activities based on the last three years of expenses for the same period.
- The need to develop a landing rate count (LRC) based upon a local jurisdiction's mosquito population density estimates pre- and post-disaster, including information about species composition.

The State has established that a public health concern exists due to the extraordinary amount of rainfall and the increased levels of standing water which has created a significant increase in the mosquito population. With respect to this determination, activities taken at the local and state level are an eligible expense as an Emergency Protective Measure under Category B and eligible for 100 percent reimbursement. Allowable costs are costs expended toward abatement which exceed costs allocated for abatement activities by jurisdictions.

The start of the incident period for DR-4332-TX was August 23, 2017. Currently 100 percent funding is in place for a 30-day period from the start of the incident period. The 30-day period culminates on September 22, 2017. Should there be any adjustment to the current time period in place for the 100 percent federal share, the information will be published and provided to our state partners.

Counties eligible to participate in this effort include:

Aransas, Austin, Bee, Bastrop, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Goliad, Gonzales, Hardin, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Karnes, Kleberg,

Lavaca, Lee, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, Tyler, Victoria, Walker, Waller, Wharton, Bexar, and Travis counties.

- Potential add-on counties will be included, upon approval.

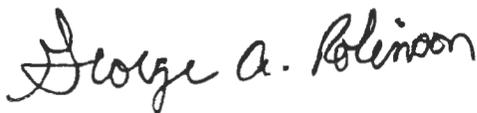
To be eligible for Public Assistance (PA) funding, insecticide formulations must be among those approved and registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use in urban areas for mosquito control, and must be applied according to label directions and precautions by appropriately trained and certified applicators. Furthermore, mosquito abatement measures must comply with all federal, state, territorial, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations concerning vector control.

Procurement/Contracting:

Due to the public health threat and the severity and magnitude of Hurricane Harvey, state and local applicants may be unable to procure vector control services within their jurisdictions through full and open competition in time to address the public health threat. FEMA may reimburse costs, for a very limited time, under an emergency contract in accordance with 2 CFR 200.321(f)(2) where public exigency or emergency for vector control will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation. Use of the emergency exception is permissible only during the actual emergency circumstances, and applicants must maintain documentation supporting the existence of emergency circumstances. Where applicants use a time and materials contract to accomplish the work, they must document: 1) that no other contracting mechanism was available, 2) a ceiling price within the contract which the contractor exceeds at its own risk, and, 3) a high degree of applicant oversight to reasonably ensure that the contractor is using efficient methods and effective costs controls.

This initial waiver of Vector Control policy requirements is in force through September 22, 2017, and may be extended based upon need.

CONCUR:



George A. Robinson
Regional Administrator

NON-CONCUR:

George A. Robinson
Regional Administrator