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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3226

August 1, 2011

W. Craig Fugate
Administrator,
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate,

This spring, Upstate New York was ravaged by a series of extreme storms and floods. As a result, roads were closed, communities lost power, and my constituents were placed in harm's way. From April 26th to May 8th, New York State residents suffered over \$40 million dollars in damages to our homes, business, and local infrastructure. I am grateful that your agency recognized this crisis through a Major Disaster Declaration. However, I am extremely concerned that this declaration only provided relief for damages incurred during the span of a mere 13 days. Devastating storms continued throughout New York State for the entire month of May. Last month, Governor Andrew Cuomo requested that FEMA provide relief for additional damages incurred from May 8th to May 30th; last week, FEMA denied his request.

I write you today to request that you reconsider, and to stress the severity of the storms endured by my constituents. After the federally recognized disaster officially ended, New York State suffered an additional \$19.7 million in damages. Wyoming County in my district, a county of just over 42,000 people, suffered approximately \$141,000 in additional damages during that time. I ask that you consider the extensive hardship imposed by these expenses, especially in the wake of the previous disaster. The affected communities, with their limited budgets, need to be made whole for the losses they endured. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Kathleen C. Hochul
Member of Congress

CC:
Ms. Lynn Canton
Regional Administrator,
Federal Emergency Management Agency
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1337
New York, New York, 10278