

Andy Beshear GOVERNOR

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August 2, 2022

Gracia B. Szczech Regional Administrator Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IV 3005 Chamblee Tucker Road Atlanta, GA 30341

Re: Request to Declare Additional Individuals and Households Assistance

Program Counties FEMA-4663-DR

Dear Regional Administrator Szczech:

Beginning on July 26, 2022, and continuing, a significant rain event impacted eastern Kentucky.

This event exceeds any flooding ever experienced in this region. The current fatality count is at 37 and is expected to rise significantly. Communities are still without food, utilities, phone service, transportation, and other basic needs.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Deanne Criswell and I toured a portion of the impacted area via helicopter on Friday July 29, 2022, after which President Biden approved FEMA-4663-DR. This declaration activated Public Assistance Category B for the counties of Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.

On July 30, 2022, Amendment No. 1 to the Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration was issued which provides the Individuals and Households Assistance Program for the counties of Breathitt, Clay, Knott, Letcher, and Perry.

On August 1, 2022, I requested that the Individuals and Households Assistance Program be extended to the remaining counties of Floyd, Johnson, Leslie, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley and Pike. The counties of Floyd and Pike were added to the Individuals and Households Assistance Program on August 2, 2022.



After further conversations with local officials and emergency management professionals in Wolfe County, I now request the Individuals and Households Assistance Program be extended to Wolfe County.

The majority of impacted citizens have lost everything. They are displaced, despondent, and anxious. It is vital that their road to recovery begin as rapidly as possible.

We fully recognize that joint damage assessment must be conducted to expand the eligible categories for the Public Assistance Program. Aerial photography obtained by the Kentucky Civil Air Patrol demonstrates the effect of the event on homes, businesses, and infrastructure. Inundation maps identify the severity of the flooding through identification of the maximum water depth in damage locations. I ask that you allow this to be sufficient proof of severity so as to include the other impacted counties for the Individuals and Households Assistance Program.

FEMA has been an extraordinary partner in our response efforts, for which the Commonwealth is grateful. I cannot thank you enough for the Region IV support and willingness to go above and beyond in helping Kentucky.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. Please advise if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Andy Beshear