



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

Release Date: May 15, 2008
Release Number: NM 11245-01

Contact: Richard Jenkins
Phone: (916) 735-1500

SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to New Mexico Residents and Businesses Affected by the Trigo Fire

SACRAMENTO – Steve Preston, Administrator of the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA), announced that low-interest disaster loans are now available to residents and businesses affected by the Trigo Fire that began April 15.

By declaring a disaster, Administrator Preston’s action makes SBA assistance available. Preston’s action responded to a request from Governor Bill Richardson that SBA received on May 13. The declaration covers the New Mexico counties of **Bernalillo, Guadalupe, Lincoln, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Socorro, Torrance and Valencia.**

“We look forward to working with New Mexico and the people affected by this disaster to make SBA disaster loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses,” said Administrator Preston.

“Low-interest Federal disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the fire,” said John C. Woosley, SBA’s New Mexico District Director.

“SBA customer service representatives will be on hand at the following Disaster Loan Outreach Center beginning Tuesday, May 20 on the days and times indicated to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application,” Woosley continued.

Torrance County
Estancia Town Hall
513 Williams Ave.
Estancia, NM

Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Tuesday, May 20 through Thursday, June 5
Closed Memorial Day Monday, May 26

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace their damaged or destroyed primary residence. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

(more)

Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to help homeowners and business owners with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses only, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage, or not.

Individuals and business owners unable to visit the outreach center may obtain information by calling **(800) 659-2955** or visiting SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may contact SBA at (800) 877-8339.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **July 14, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **February 16, 2009**.