

Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General

**Interim Report on FEMA Public Assistance Grant
Funds Awarded to California Department of Parks and
Recreation, Sacramento, CA**

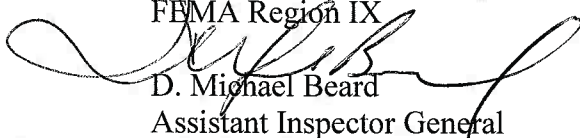




Homeland
Security

MAR 8 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Nancy Ward
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region IX

FROM: 
D. Michael Beard
Assistant Inspector General
Office of Emergency Management Oversight

SUBJECT: *Interim Report on FEMA Public Assistance Grant Funds Awarded to California Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, CA*
FEMA Disaster Number 1628-DR-CA
Audit Report Number DS-12-05

We are currently auditing \$3.1 million of the \$8 million of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) public assistance (PA) grant funds awarded to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (Department), Public Assistance Identification Number 000-U8RA6-00, for disaster recovery work related to winter storms of 2005–2006. The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you that \$1.1 million of the total funds awarded was for projects that will not be performed and should therefore be deobligated immediately so that these funds can be put to better use.

We are conducting this performance audit pursuant to the *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, and according to generally accepted government auditing standards. Our overall objective is to determine whether the Department accounted for and expended FEMA public assistance funds applying the statutes, regulations, and FEMA policies and guidelines in effect at the time of the disaster. At the conclusion of our audit, we plan to issue our complete audit report, including any additional findings and recommendations.

PROJECTS NOT PERFORMED – FEDERAL FUNDS NOT NEEDED

The Department has not performed work on 26 projects (Exhibit) for which FEMA awarded \$1,108,425 (federal share \$831,319). Any approved time extensions for performing this work under the FEMA PA program are no longer in effect. We included three of these projects in our original audit scope. At our request, Department officials identified the other 23 projects as ones they would not perform under the FEMA PA program. Therefore, FEMA should deobligate the funding for these projects and put those federal funds to better use. Department officials agreed with this conclusion.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that the Regional Administrator, FEMA Region IX, in coordination with the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA), deobligate \$1,108,425 (federal share \$831,319) for the 26 projects not performed (Exhibit) and put those federal funds to better use.

DISCUSSION WITH MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT FOLLOWUP

We discussed the interim results of this audit with Department officials during our audit, and included their comments in this report, as appropriate. We also provided a written summary of our finding and recommendation in advance to Cal EMA (grantee) on February 3, 2012, and to FEMA on February 6, 2012. We discussed the finding and recommendation at an exit conference with Cal EMA and Department officials on February 7, 2012. FEMA declined our invitation for an exit conference. FEMA, Cal EMA, and Department officials concurred with our determination.

Within 90 days of the date of this memorandum, please provide our office with a written response that includes your (1) agreement or disagreement, (2) corrective action plan, and (3) target completion date for the recommendation. Also, please include responsible parties and any other supporting documentation necessary to inform us about the current status of the recommendation. Until your response is received and evaluated, the recommendation will be considered open and unresolved.

Consistent with our responsibility under the *Inspector General Act*, we are providing copies of our report to appropriate congressional committees with oversight and appropriation responsibility over the Department of Homeland Security. We will post the report on our website for public dissemination. Significant contributors to this report were Humberto Melara, Jack Lankford, and Bill Stark.

Should you have questions concerning this report, please contact me at (202) 254-4100 or Humberto Melara at (510) 637-1463.

cc: Administrator, FEMA
Audit Liaison, FEMA (Job Code G-11-058)
Audit Liaison, FEMA Region IX
Audit Liaison, DHS

EXHIBIT

**Schedule of Projects Not Performed
December 17, 2005, to February 7, 2012
California Department of Parks and Recreation
FEMA Disaster Number 1628-DR-CA**

Project Number	Project Award Amount	Project Incurred Cost	Unneeded Federal Funding
455	\$3,261	\$0	\$3,261
459	1,690	0	1,690
464	20,698	0	20,698
2216	25,118	0	25,118
2617	85,069	0	85,069
2842*	256,878	0	256,878
2850	52,045	0	52,045
2851	4,028	0	4,028
2853*	7,737	0	7,737
2859	5,645	0	5,645
2860	3,922	0	3,922
2889	58,660	0	58,660
3145	6,591	0	6,591
3148	6,774	0	6,774
3149	11,281	0	11,281
3151	18,845	0	18,845
3152	23,832	0	23,832
3176	94,700	0	94,700
3184	116,738	0	116,738
3193	3,425	0	3,425
3197	91,675	0	91,675
3200	5,184	0	5,184
3205	3,184	0	3,184
3208*	140,720	0	140,720
3485	2,374	0	2,374
3503	58,351	0	58,351
Totals	\$1,108,425	\$0	\$1,108,425

* Projects in original audit scope.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COPIES

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