

Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

April 2012 DD-12-08

Why This Matters

Dawson Public Power District received an award of \$10.45 million from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grantee, for damages caused by severe winter storms from December 19, 2006, through January 1, 2007. FEMA provides such assistance to state, Tribal, and local governments, and certain types of private nonprofit organizations so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. We perform audits of FEMA grantees and subgrantees, focusing on grants with potential for problems and areas that are of interest to Congress and FEMA.

DHS Response

FEMA Regional officials agreed with our finding and recommendation. FEMA's written response is due within 90 days.

FEMA Public Assistance Grant Funds Awarded to Dawson Public Power District, Lexington, Nebraska

What We Determined

Dawson Public Power District generally accounted for and expended FEMA grant funds according to federal regulations and FEMA guidelines. However, we question \$26,021 because Dawson Public Power District claimed costs not related to the disaster, which are not eligible according to FEMA policy.

What We Recommend

We recommend that the Regional Administrator, FEMA Region VII, disallow \$26,021 (\$19,516 federal share) of ineligible costs not related to the disaster.

For Further Information:

Contact our Office of Public Affairs at (202)254-4100, or email us at DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@dhs.gov