

## Trina Hembree

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**From:** Chuck McHugh [MCHUGH@dem.state.az.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2002 7:24 PM  
**To:** thembree@csg.org  
**Cc:** austinm@dem.state.az.us  
**Subject:** Re: FEMA Disaster Assistance Rule



Chuck McHugh.vcf

Trina,

Mike Austin asked me to respond regarding the proposed rule for the Disaster Assistance to Individual and Households Program. I'd like to note two items. First, the State of Arizona prefers that FEMA administer the program. Given infrequent presidential disasters in Arizona, it is challenging for us to keep our staff current in the implementation of human services programs. Furthermore, it is much more cost effective for FEMA to maintain the staffing and resources required to administer this type of program.

Secondly, in review of the proposed rules and its impact upon GFIP, I recommend that we keep the current GFIP process in place. This provides three years of subsidized flood insurance coverage. I suggest that without this subsidy, disaster victims recovering from financial hardships are unlikely to obtain coverage at their own expense, leaving them repeatedly vulnerable to subsequent events.

I hope these inputs are helpful. Call anytime I can assist. Sincerely, Chuck McHugh

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>>> "Trina Hembree" <thembree@csg.org> 02/05/02 02:13PM >>>

On January 23, FEMA published a proposed rule for the Disaster Assistance to Individuals and Households Program. A copy is attached. There is a comment period of 45 days that ends on March 11, 2002. FEMA would like to request comments from NEMA and the states as soon as possible so they can begin to identify and resolve problems, questions, clarifications needed, etc.

The NEMA Response & Recovery Cmte. received a briefing from FEMA today. A copy of the powerpoint slide presentation is also attached.

NEMA will provide preliminary comments to FEMA in advance of the Mid-Year Conference with opportunity for final comments following that meeting. We ask that you please review and send us your preliminary state comments no later than Thursday, February 14. We also strongly urge each state to comment directly to FEMA on your own since this rule has different implications for states depending on the option you choose.

Finally, in your written comments, please let NEMA know which option you are leading toward.

We look forward to your preliminary comments by February 15. Thank you.

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