

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Governor Requests Extended Timeframe to Appeal FEMA Denial

Small Business Administration Makes Low-Interest Rates Available for Flood Victims

DES MOINES – Gov. Terry E. Branstad has requested an extension of the time period to appeal FEMA's decision to deny Individual Assistance to five Iowa counties impacted by Missouri River flooding.

On August 4, 2011, Gov. Branstad received notification that FEMA had denied his request to make the Individual Assistance Program available to residents of Fremont, Harrison, Monona, Pottawattamie and Woodbury counties. The State of Iowa has 30 days to appeal FEMA's denial of the Individual Assistance Program. However, since the flood water will recede slowly, the Governor is asking FEMA for an extension of the appeal to Nov. 15, 2011, so it may include damages that surface beyond that 30-day time period.

The appeal of the decision by FEMA will be coordinated by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD), which will work closely with the local emergency management agencies to determine additional damages and impacts caused by the ongoing flooding.

The FEMA Individual Assistance Program is made available to homeowners, renters and businesses and can include grants and low-interest loans to help pay for temporary housing, home repairs and other disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance or other aid programs.

SBA Makes Low-Interest Rates Available for Flood Victims in Five Counties

In addition, the Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced that low-interest federal disaster loans are now available to Iowa residents and business owners affected by the severe storms and flash flooding that occurred July 27-28, 2011.

The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available in the Iowa counties of Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson and Jones.

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