

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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August 31, 2016

The Honorable W. Craig Fugate  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street SW, 8th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate:

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Transportation and Public Assets, which has oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, I recently reviewed current recovery efforts in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and the affected adjacent areas following the massive flooding earlier this month. I would like to request your assistance with several items I found that need your attention.

Unfortunately, as of Monday, August 29, only one modular unit for a single family had been deployed and was operational. I toured the site where dozens of these units are now stored and understand that a second site has more than 40 units available, sitting idle, with more than 1,000 additional units expected to arrive. I urge you to do everything possible to deploy those units immediately and to expedite their availability on an emergency basis.

Also, as you are aware, this storm incident is unique in its nature, scope and dimension. With over 123,000 claims already submitted and about one-third deemed critical, I implore FEMA to expedite the claims process and distribute those funds as soon as possible.

I understand that more than 75 percent of the affected population did not have flood insurance and that the reason they did not get insurance is because the federal floodplain map did not identify their houses within the risk range. With the unique damage to tens-of-thousands of structures, FEMA must adopt some flexibility in allowing homeowners to rebuild and re-enter their homes as soon as possible

As of yesterday, I identified more than 2,000 individuals who remain in shelters two weeks after the flooding. It would be helpful if FEMA could identify campers, trailers and other options to see if they could be incorporated into FEMA's reserves as soon as possible. Organizations, businesses and schools are faltering and will totally collapse if some normality does not return to the hard hit areas.

Hon. W. Craig Fugate

August 30, 2016

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There are other findings from my visit that I would like to discuss with you, including why it took four days for FEMA to deliver water to the affected areas. I look forward to working with you to make administrative and legislative changes to expedite recovery in Louisiana and to be better prepared to respond to future disaster.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line and a smaller loop.

John Mica  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation  
and Public Assets

cc: The Honorable Tammy Duckworth, Ranking Member,  
Subcommittee on Transportation and Public Assets