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August 24, 2017

Hon. William B. Long, Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security  
500 C St., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20472-0001  
Via U.S. Mail and Electronic delivery to [brock.long@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:brock.long@fema.dhs.gov)

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RE: NFIP Proof of Loss deadline for the 2016 Great Louisiana Flood

Dear Mr. Long:

As a non-profit organization that assists Louisiana residents and all Americans with insurance matters and disaster recovery, we join Senators Cassidy and Kennedy and Insurance Commissioner Jim Donelon in respectfully requesting that your agency extend the September 1, 2017 proof of loss deadline for the 2016 Great Flood another six months to match the extension your agency gave to Superstorm Sandy victims.

We understand you have already committed to allowing supplemental proofs of loss to be filed and processed after September 1st, 2017. This is a positive step, and we will appreciate seeing a bulletin setting forth that commitment and any future deadline for supplemental claims. However in our view, extending the deadline is a simpler approach and will save your agency time and money in the long run.

**There remains a shortage of reputable qualified repair estimators and contractors:**

As has been brought to your attention from numerous sources, there are many people in the flooded areas who are still living in temporary housing and trailers and working to get accurate assessments from the limited number of professionals qualified to properly estimate their flood damage and costs to repair. The recent flooding in New Orleans and Hurricane Harvey will no doubt exacerbate the shortage of reputable estimators.

**Sandy victims were given two full years, Great Flood victims deserve the same:**

Many flood victims in the Baton Rouge area lack reliable Internet service, and have no idea that when September 1st, 2017 comes around they will lose the ability to fix errors in their NFIP claim settlement calculations. We can think of no logical reason why Louisiana residents should have less rights than New Jersey and New York residents. We know your agency does not want to extend the costly and time-consumer reopen/review process that is still underway for Sandy claims.

Thank you for your anticipated prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Amy Bach

**Programs**

*Advocacy and Action*

*Roadmap to Preparedness™*

*Roadmap to Recovery™*

cc: Roy E. Wright, Deputy Associate Administrator for Insurance and Mitigation  
**By E-mail to: [roy.wright@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:roy.wright@fema.dhs.gov)**