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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2013

The Honorable W. Craig Fugate
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate:

On June 3, 2013, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon requested Joint Individual Assistance (IA) Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) for St. Charles and St. Louis Counties following severe weather conditions that included tornadoes, high winds, hail, flooding and flash flooding that began on May 29, 2013. After reports of breached and overtopped levees along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, Governor Nixon requested additional IA PDAs for Gasconade, Lincoln, Moniteau, Montgomery and Osage Counties on June 4, 2013.

As you know, these assessments are the first step in providing governors with the information needed to determine if the extent of damages exceed a state's disaster response capabilities. Though I recognize the full extent of damages may not be fully realized until conditions improve, I request that FEMA, working with the state of Missouri, ensures current and any future assessments are performed thoroughly and in the most expeditious manner possible. Moreover, I request that you ensure the Missouri Congressional delegation continues to receive constant updates from the agency throughout this process.

Several levees have been overtopped or breached in Missouri's 3rd Congressional District alone. In fact, due to a levee breaching after having been overtopped, and the failure of a temporary transportation barrier in St. Charles County, the City of West Alton, Missouri, was evacuated. Additionally, a levee in Callaway County, for which a IA PDA has not yet been sought, was breached, flooding roughly 400 acres of land.

As Missouri families struggle to pick up the pieces from these devastating storms and their effects, I urge you to give due consideration to my requests.

Sincerely,



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress