

Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

August 26, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Mr. Don R. Boyce, Regional Administrator
FEMA Region 1
99 High Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA

Dear President Obama:

Under the provisions of Section 501(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR Section 206.35, I request that you declare an emergency for the State of Connecticut, which is threatened by the approaching Hurricane Irene.

Hurricane Irene is currently a major hurricane and the National Weather Service projects that this storm will affect the entire state, as cited in the National Weather Service statement/forecast at 11:00 am today. In accordance with the fast-changing forecasts, we are conducting hurricane preparations for a Category 3 hurricane. The current forecast indicates that there is a 70% probability that the State will take a direct hit. The impact of Irene on the State is anticipated to be the worst hurricane strike since 1938. Connecticut's last major hurricane, Gloria, hit in 1985, and the tree coverage throughout the state has substantially increased since then. This puts the State's roads and power grid at far greater risk and we anticipate outages to last for a period of weeks rather than days. Also, Hurricane Irene is currently forecast to make landfall at high tide, at the time of the highest monthly Spring tide. In addition, up to 13 inches of rain is forecast, while trees are at full foliage and the ground is really saturated. Given the wind, coastal surge, and flooding impacts on the State's communities, Irene is considered a major hurricane event.

In response to the situation, I have taken appropriate action under state law and directed the activation of the State Emergency Plan on August 25, 2011 in accordance with Section 501(a) of the Stafford Act.

Per FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy 1001, I have also directed the activation of the State Emergency Operations Center. Under Connecticut General Statutes Section 28-9, I have declared a state of civil preparedness emergency (copy attached) for the whole state in anticipation of the impending hurricane, for the counties of Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, Tolland, and Windham.

In addition, I anticipate that evacuations for coastal and riverine low lying areas will be ordered throughout Connecticut, affecting more than 100,000 residents. We are especially concerned about the flooding and coastal surge impacts on densely populated urban areas.

This declaration is necessary in order to provide operational Federal support (e.g., teams, equipment, supplies) to meet critical emergency protection requirements before landfall of the hurricane, other than pre-positioning, that would overwhelm the capability or capacity of State resources.

Pursuant to 44 CFR Section 206.35, I have determined that this situation is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments, and that supplementary Federal assistance is necessary to save lives, protect property, public health and safety, and/or to lessen or avert the threat of a disaster. I am specifically requesting Category B (Emergency Protective Measures), including Direct Federal Assistance and the Individuals and Households Program (IHP), the Small Business Administration's Disaster Assistance Loans, Crisis Counseling, Disaster Legal Services, Disaster Unemployment, the Disaster Supplement Nutritional Assistance Program, and Disaster Case Management. The State anticipates implementing pre-executed disaster removal contracts pre-landfall in order to prepare for catastrophic debris removal. I am specifically requesting funding at 100% for Public Assistance Category B for Emergency Protective Measures and Direct Federal Assistance for the first 72 hours.

I am specifically requesting this assistance for all counties of Connecticut: Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, Tolland, and Windham, for the incident period beginning August 25, 2011, and continuing. Tropical force and/or hurricane force winds are anticipated to affect all counties of Connecticut.

The following information is furnished on the nature and amount of State and local resources that have been used or will be used to alleviate conditions of this emergency:

The State Emergency Operations Center has been staffed since August 25, 2011, with full activation since 0800 August 26, 2011. All state agencies have been engaged in hurricane preparedness activities, including: planning for the movement of inmates from low lying facilities; preparing for the evacuation of 17 coastal nursing homes; preparing the volunteer Urban Search and Rescue Team; putting Disaster Medical Assistance Team on standby; preparing and staging assets; opening and staffing emergency operations centers, including off-hour activations; ordering sandbags; preparing state facilities for hurricane-force winds; moving construction equipment, including large cranes at bridge construction sites; deploying cots and other assets; preparing for debris removal activities; public messaging; testing equipment; evacuating large animal facilities; re-locating records in flood prone buildings; implementing

emergency measures. Limited state chain saw crews are on standby. The State Fire service has requested, and will be receiving, a national fire service GO team to assist with incident management support. We anticipate that future pre-landfall activities will further overwhelm the resources of the State. In particular, the cost of the deployment of at least 400 to 1500 National Guard on state active duty to perform extraordinary preparatory activities outside their standard activities is anticipated to be approximately \$100,000- \$300,000 per 24 hour period for staffing alone. In addition, the State may activate its debris removal and monitoring contracts for pre-landfall work at an estimated pre-landfall cost of at least \$100,000. State parks will be closing Saturday morning, August 27, 2011. MetroNorth train service is scheduled to be shut down completely at 10 pm August 27, 2011, with no trains available for evacuation. Local resources have been used to prepare for sheltering and possible evacuations; sandbagging; preparing for debris removal activities, including emergency approval of sites; public messaging; reviewing and implementing SLOSH mapping planning; pre-deployment of assets; equipment preparation and testing; activation of volunteer teams, including numerous CERT teams; law enforcement, fire, public health and public works activities. In addition to local sheltering, the Red Cross is preparing to open approximately 50 shelters, with 400 volunteers on standby. Substantial pre-landfall support for urban areas evacuation is likely and is now in process.

Preliminary estimates of the types and amount of emergency assistance needed under the Stafford Act, and emergency assistance from other Federal Agencies are tabulated in Enclosure A.

I certify that for this emergency, the State and local governments will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property.

- (a) The State requires this assistance in order to help fill the shortfalls in the State's resources. Also, in some cases, the assistance is not likely to be available within the necessary time frame: in other cases, the assistance requires subject matter expertise not otherwise available.
- (b) We have requested that a FEMA Incident Management Assistance Team be deployed to Connecticut, as well as a FEMA State Liaison Officer. Also, a federal ESF 3 representative to assist with debris planning and to provide assistance for evacuation planning has been requested. In addition, I am requesting the presence of an Army Corps of Engineers at our State EOC to assist with evacuation planning and execution, and the Coast Guard to be on standby for rescue missions. I am also requesting the possible use of an Urban Search and Rescue Team, as most of the state USAR team members are also members of fire or law enforcement departments that have already assigned the individuals locally. The federal Health and Human Services Agency will be providing assistance for the state Department of Public Health. I also anticipate that the State may request a certain number of generators, tarps, water, and /or meals, as it is likely that our supplies will be insufficient to meet anticipated need.

In accordance with 44 CFR Section 206.208, the State of Connecticut agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance:

1. Provide, without cost to the United States, all lands, easements, and rights-of-way necessary to accomplish the approved work;
2. Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work;
3. Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State Agreement; and
4. Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.

In addition, I anticipate the need for debris removal, which poses an immediate threat to lives, public health, and safety. Pursuant to Sections 502 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 USC Sections 5192 and 5173, the State agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for removal of debris.

William J. Hackett, State Director of Emergency Management at the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection is designated as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He will work with FEMA in conducting damage assessments and may provide further information or justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,



DANNEL P. MALLOY
GOVERNOR

Enclosures
DPM:bmb

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE A TO EMERGENCY REQUEST

(Estimated Requirements)

Estimated requirements for other Federal agency programs (see body of request):

FEMA
Health and Human Services
Army Corps of Engineers
Coast Guard

Totals: _____

Estimated Requirements for assistance under the Stafford Act, PRE-LANDFALL ONLY:

	AMOUNT
Coordination	\$600,000
Technical and advisory assistance	\$400,000
Debris removal	\$100,000
Emergency protective measures	\$500,000
Distribution of emergency supplies	\$100,000
Other (specify) (urban area evac support)	\$200,000
Totals:	1,900,000
Grand Total:	

Note: Estimates are to reflect total eligible costs before any cost sharing. Numbers reflect pre-landfall hurricane preparation activities and are based both on current costs and estimates.

Hurricane IRENE Forecast Discussion

Home Public Adv Fcst/Adv Discussion Wind Probs Maps/Charts Archive

US Watch/Warning Storm Surge Probs

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WTNT44 KNHC 261446

TCDAT4

HURRICANE IRENE DISCUSSION NUMBER 25

NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL

AL092011

1100 AM EDT FRI AUG 26 2011

DATA FROM NOAA AND AIR FORCE RESERVE HURRICANE HUNTER AIRCRAFT SUGGEST THE INTENSITY OF IRENE IS SLIGHTLY LOWER. ALTHOUGH PEAK FLIGHT-LEVEL WINDS AT 700 MB WERE 111 KT...SFMR AND DROPSONDE OBSERVATIONS INDICATED THAT A HIGHER-THAN-TYPICAL REDUCTION OF THE WIND FROM FLIGHT-LEVEL TO THE SURFACE APPLIES...AND THE INITIAL INTENSITY IS REDUCED TO 90 KT. GIVEN THE CURRENT STORM STRUCTURE AND PREDICTED ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS...LITTLE CHANGE IN STRENGTH IS EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 12 TO 24 HOURS. AFTER PASSING NORTH CAROLINA...SOUTHWESTERLY SHEAR IS FORECAST TO INCREASE AND SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES WILL BE GRADUALLY DECREASING. THIS SHOULD RESULT IN GRADUAL WEAKENING OF THE CYCLONE AS IT MOVES NEAR THE MID-ATLANTIC COAST. HOWEVER...IRENE IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN A LARGE AND DANGEROUS TROPICAL CYCLONE AND HAS THE POTENTIAL TO PRODUCE DAMAGING WINDS...STORM SURGE FLOODING...AND EXTREMELY HEAVY RAINS ALMOST ANYWHERE FROM EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA NORTHWARD THROUGH NEW ENGLAND.

IRENE IS MOVING NORTHWARD OR 360/12 KT. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE TO THE FORECAST PHILOSOPHY. IRENE SHOULD MOVE NORTHWARD FOR ANOTHER 12 HOURS OR SO...FOLLOWED BY A GRADUAL TURN TO THE NORTH-NORTHEAST AS IT MOVES ALONG THE EAST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES. THE TRACK GUIDANCE IS IN GOOD AGREEMENT ON THIS SCENARIO AND NO CHANGE WAS REQUIRED FROM THE PREVIOUS NHC FORECAST THROUGH 72 HOURS.

ONLY A SMALL ADJUSTMENT WAS MADE TO THE HURRICANE WARNING ON THIS ADVISORY. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE HURRICANE WARNING AND WATCH AREAS WILL NEED TO BE EXTENDED NORTHWARD ALONG THE U.S. EAST COAST THIS AFTERNOON.

FORECAST POSITIONS AND MAX WINDS

INIT	26/1500Z	30.7N	77.3W	90 KT	105 MPH
12H	27/0000Z	32.2N	77.1W	90 KT	105 MPH
24H	27/1200Z	34.4N	76.6W	90 KT	105 MPH
36H	28/0000Z	36.7N	75.6W	85 KT	100 MPH
48H	28/1200Z	39.5N	74.1W	75 KT	85 MPH
72H	29/1200Z	47.5N	68.8W	55 KT	65 MPH...INLAND
96H	30/1200Z	55.5N	57.0W	40 KT	45 MPH...POST-TROP/EXTRATROP
120H	31/1200Z	59.0N	38.0W	40 KT	45 MPH...POST-TROP/EXTRATROP

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FORECASTER BROWN/BLAKE

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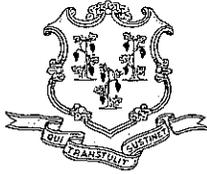
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FORECASTER BROWN/BLAKE



Dannel P. Malloy
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SECRETARY OF THE STATE
LEGISLATION & ELECTIONS
2011 AUG 25 P 5:05

August 25, 2011

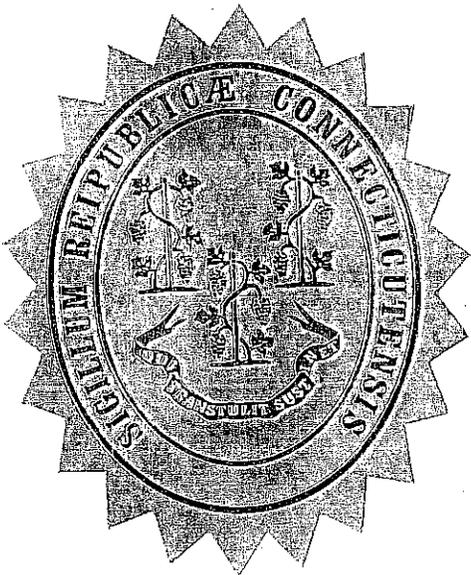
The Honorable Denise Merrill
Secretary of the State
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: Declaration of Civil Preparedness Emergency

Dear Secretary Merrill:

Due to the severe weather conditions predicted to affect the State, specifically the National Weather Service issuance of forecasts indicating that all or part of Connecticut will be directly affected by Hurricane Irene, including torrential rainfall and tropical force to hurricane force winds; I am hereby proclaiming a state of civil preparedness emergency, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 28-9.

I am filing this proclamation with you under my hand and seal on this 25th day of August, 2011.




Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

TIME: 4:55 pm