
From: "Daniel McLean (Sanders)" <[REDACTED]@sanders.senate.gov>
To: "Howard Weiss-Tisman" <hweisstisman@vpr.net>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 2:36:57 PM
Subject: RE: FEMA

Howard - Here is a statement from the Vermont congressional delegation. Please confirm receipt. Thanks, Dan

>>>> Delegation statement >>>>

As Congress works on reauthorizing FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, our top priorities are to ensure Vermonters are protected from natural disasters like Tropical Storm Irene and to help families who cannot afford high flood insurance premiums. Flooding is already the most common and costly natural hazard not just in Vermont, but in the United States. Climate scientists are saying loud and clear that the extreme weather events that cause flooding are becoming more frequent because of global warming. That's why having a viable and stable National Flood Insurance Program is so critically important. Right here in Vermont, the NFIP paid nearly \$43 million in claims after Tropical Storm Irene.

Importantly, we must also focus on reducing the risk of damage from flooding by building more resilient roads, bridges, culverts and other infrastructure. Studies have shown that for every \$1 spent on 'hazard mitigation,' we save \$4 in recovery costs when disasters strike. Many Vermont communities have done some great resiliency work after Irene, a lesson we should heed during upcoming NFIP discussions.

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