



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Contact: Carrie B. Moritomo
505-699-2318

Governor Bill Richardson Signs FEMA Agreement to Release Funds for Eligible Curry and Quay County Residents

(Santa Fe, NM) -- Governor Bill Richardson signed the FEMA Federal – State Agreement today, cementing the agreement with the federal government that will allow federal funds to flow to qualified residents in Curry and Quay counties whose lives were impacted by the recent devastating tornadoes.

“This action means that relief is on the way for Curry and Quay county residents,” said Governor Richardson. “I am grateful the President and FEMA recognize the extensive damage caused by the tornadoes in Curry and Quay counties. I feel certain that the quick response to New Mexico is a result of a personal meeting with Director Paulison and the unified front projected by myself and Congressman Udall as well as Senators Bingaman and Domenici.”

Last week, Governor Richardson, Congressman Udall, Senators Bingaman and Senator Domenici met face to face with FEMA Director Paulison to request assistance for Curry and Quay County residents. On April 2, the President declared a major disaster in the State of New Mexico. The declaration was based on the damage resulting from the severe weather and tornadoes which occurred on March 23rd in eastern New Mexico. Both Curry and Quay counties will receive the federal Individual Assistance program.

Through the Individual Assistance program, FEMA may be able to provide temporary housing, repair, replacement, and permanent housing construction to qualified

households. Other housing needs are provided for disaster related medical or dental costs, clothing, household items, tools, cleanup items, damaged vehicles, or other necessary expenses or serious needs as determined by FEMA.

Residents and business owners who sustained losses associated with tornadoes in Curry and Quay counties are encouraged to register with FEMA. Affected individuals can register online at www.fema.gov or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing impaired. The toll free numbers will operate 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.

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