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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-7000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

This document has been
signed by
Pamela H. Patenaude

MEMORANDUM FOR: All CPD Field Office Division Directors

FROM: Pamela H. Patenaude, Assistant Secretary, D

SUBJECT: Waivers concerning hurricane disaster response and recovery Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

Hurricane Rita has expanded and exacerbated the impacts of Hurricane Katrina, forcing even more Gulf Coast residents to abandon their homes and seek shelter in other communities and in other states. Recently, I issued memoranda suspending statutory requirements and waiving regulatory requirements in three areas to allow grantees additional flexibility to respond to these unexpected situations:

1. Statutory Waiver of CDBG Public Service Expenditure Cap to Assist Persons Displaced by Presidentially-declared Disaster, Hurricane Katrina, dated September 5, 2005.
2. Waiver of 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2) to Reduce Public Comment Period Associated with Amendments to Consolidated Plans, dated September 5, 2005.
3. Waiver of 24 CFR 91.115(c)(2) to Reduce Public Comment Period Associated with Amendments to State Consolidated Plans, dated September 21, 2005.

Given the immediate need to address the expenses associated with this latest influx of individuals and to otherwise respond to revised funding priorities, I find that there is good cause pursuant to 24 CFR 5.110 and 24 CFR 91.600 to apply these three previously-issued waivers and suspensions to cover Hurricane Rita assistance efforts. These waivers and suspensions are available to any grantees providing Hurricane Rita relief and recovery assistance. All other limitations expressed in the original waiver memos remain in place as indicated therein.

Grantees exercising these waivers should so indicate in writing to HUD as soon as it is convenient.

Questions regarding this waiver should be directed to Stan Gimont, Director, Entitlement Communities Division, at (202) 708-1577, extension 4559, or to Steve Johnson, Director, State and Small Cities Division, at (202) 708-1322, extension 4548. Their respective e-mail addresses are Stanley_Gimont@hud.gov and Steve_Johnson@hud.gov.