

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 8, 2009

The Honorable Richard L. Skinner
Inspector General
Office of the Inspector General
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Mr. Skinner:

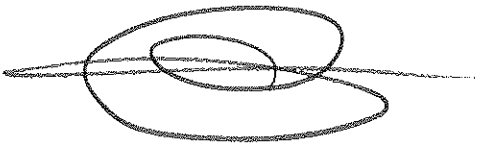
On Monday, June 1, 2009, we held a congressional meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana with officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the State of Louisiana, and local governments to discuss the continued delays of recovery efforts related to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

At the meeting, there were significant discrepancies between information provided by FEMA and the State of Louisiana on the number and scope of the outstanding FEMA Public Assistance projects in Louisiana related to these hurricanes. Determining the accurate number and scope of these outstanding projects is critical for establishing the extent of the back-logged projects, measuring progress, and holding government officials accountable for accelerating the pace of rebuilding public facilities in Louisiana.

We, therefore, request that you review this issue and determine the number, scope, and the disputed value of the outstanding Public Assistance projects in Louisiana related to these hurricanes. We also believe that interviewing local applicants in your review would be critical. Because this information is necessary to the effective oversight of this process, we request that this information be provided to us within thirty (30) days.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information about this request, please contact Mr. Dan Mathews, Republican Staff Director, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management at (202) 225-3014.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

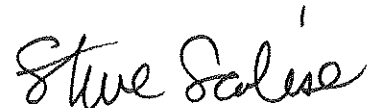


John L. Mica
Ranking Republican Member
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure

Sincerely,



Anh "Joseph" Cao
Member
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress