



Pete Ricketts, Governor

Good Life. Great Strength.

February 23, 2022

Memorandum From:
Erv Portis
Deputy Director
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

Nebraska has experienced an unprecedented number of State and Federal disaster declarations over the past several years and numerous counties have been the recipient of multiple declarations. The State/Federal process is designed to move federal funding to the local level for recover efforts on an expedited basis when disaster occurs.

When project work sheets are written for both small and large projects, the signature of the applicants authorized representative at the local level is acknowledgment the project is either done or will be completed. As a matter of course, NEMA pays all small projects upon obligation of the project and then when the project completion documents come in to close the project, the state cost share is paid.

Typically NEMA inspects a representative sampling of small projects and 100% of large projects for audit compliance with each disaster for quality control. NEMA is now noticing a trend at the sub-applicant level where money has been accepted for projects and the work has not been completed. In some instances projects close out documents have come in signed by the Authorized Representative indicating work has been completed. However, follow up inspection reveals no work was initiated nor completed.

This Memo is putting applicants on notice; all projects will be inspected by NEMA and where work has not been completed, or completed according to the scope of work, reimbursement of funds will be pursued. Where NEMA suspects a fraudulent close out certification has been submitted, the matter will be turned over to the Nebraska State Patrol for criminal investigation.

Questions in regard to these matters can be directed to:
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Daryl Bohac, Director

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