



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-5000

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

Ms. Chandana L. Achanta
OMB Desk Officer
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Achanta:

The Department is seeking emergency review of the Paperwork Reduction Act requirements regarding the Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP). The Notice of Paperwork Submission (copy enclosed), proposed for immediate publication in the Federal Register, explains the burden of the collection requirements and invites public comments. This is a new information collection.

In compliance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.13, this letter requests emergency processing within 14 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register. This request for emergency processing is essential because of the urgency for public housing agencies (PHAs) to implement DHAP for eligible families in their respective jurisdictions. DHAP provides a monthly rent subsidy to assist FEMA-determined eligible families displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. PHAs that currently administer the Housing Choice Voucher program will be designated by HUD to administer DHAP if the PHA is willing to do so. These PHAs will enter into Grant Agreements with FEMA to administer DHAP. Rental assistance payments under DHAP will commence on November 1, 2007. The shortened processing period that we are respectfully requesting will help facilitate the prompt review and approval of all data collection related to this program.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,

Bessy Kong
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Policy, Programs and Legislative Initiatives