

FEMA Answers Request by Congressman Rothman by Adding Bergen and Passaic Counties to Emergency Disaster Declaration after October Snowstorm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, DC – On December 12, 2011, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) released the following statement after the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) added Bergen and Passaic Counties to the emergency disaster declaration for damages from the October 29, 2011 snow storm. This addition comes in response to a December 1, 2011 letter by Congressman Rothman and Congressman Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) to FEMA Administrator William Craig Fugate, asking for recovery assistance to Bergen and Passaic Counties for damages from the October 29, 2011 snow storm. Congressman Rothman's statement:

I am extremely pleased that FEMA responded favorably to our request to add Bergen and Passaic Counties to the emergency disaster declaration regarding the October 29, 2011 snow storm.

As Congressman Pascrell and I wrote to FEMA, the unseasonable storm caused significant damage in our two counties. As a result of the snow, heavy rain, and high winds, thousands of our constituents were without power, water, or heating for days, downed trees and wires restricted travel, and county and local governments incurred millions in recovery costs. In Bergen County alone, five lives were lost to house fires and vehicle accidents.

There is a lot of work left to be done to repair the damage from the October 29, 2011 snow storm. The funding now made available by the federal government will help our local communities rebuild and recover.

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