



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF STORM RECOVERY

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

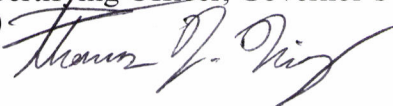
Seth Diamond
Director

James Rubin
Director



MEMORANDUM

To: CDBG-DR NY Rising Bulkhead Repair Initiative - ERR File

From: Thomas J. King, Certifying Officer, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) 

Date: July 17, 2014

Subject: Re-evaluation of Environmental Assessment under 24 CFR 58.47- NY Rising Bulkhead Repair Initiative

The activities associated with the NY Rising Bulkhead Repair Initiative ("the Initiative") would provide financial assistance (for repair and/or replacement or reconstruction) to property owners whose residential bulkheads were damaged by Hurricane Irene and Superstorm Sandy. The Initiative is a component of the NY Rising Single Family Housing (SFH) and Multifamily Programs, which are funded by the New York State Homes and Community Renewal's (HCR) CDBG-DR program. This initiative is needed to help maintain or restore properties impacted by these storms through repair and replacement of damaged bulkhead structures, and to help prevent future damage.

A Tier 1 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) was conducted for the Nassau County Bulkhead Repair Initiative in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations 24 CFR Part 58, and a combined *Finding of No Significant Impact* (FONSI) and *Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds* (NOIRROF) was published on April 4, 2014.

Subsequent to issuance of the FONSI/NOIRROF, the Tier 1 PEA was revised to reflect changes in the scope and administration of the Initiative, and to respond to comments received from HUD and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Substantive revisions include the following:

- Program Eligibility Language: Minor revisions were made to the language regarding program eligibility requirements for the NY Rising Housing Recovery Programs.
- GOSR clarified that the homeowners participating in the initiative would be eligible to receive a preliminary payment of \$2,500.00 to cover engineering and design costs which are necessary to inform the Tier II environmental review. The preliminary payment would not be used for construction activities, but only for engineering and design costs associated with bulkhead repair or reconstruction. Such costs are exempt from environmental review pursuant to 24 CFR 58.34 and as such will be issued to eligible homeowners prior to the execution of the Tier II environmental review.