I. Public Participation

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket ID. Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, all submissions will be posted, without change, to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov, and will include any personal information you provide. Therefore, submitting this information makes it public. You may wish to read the Privacy Act notice, which can be viewed by clicking on the “Privacy Notice” link in the footer of http://www.regulations.gov.

You may submit your comments and material by the methods specified in the ADDRESSES section. Please submit your comments and any supporting material by only one means to avoid the receipt and review of duplicate submissions.

Docket: The proposed policy is available in docket ID FEMA–2011–0016. For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov and search for the docket ID. Submitted comments may also be inspected at FEMA, Office of Chief Counsel, Room 835, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472.

II. Background

This policy provides guidance in determining the eligibility of demolition of private structures under the provisions of the Public Assistance Program. FEMA proposes to include the removal of slabs and/or foundations that were part of a demolished structure as an eligible demolition activity. This work is not eligible under FEMA’s current policy.

FEMA seeks comment on the proposed policy, which is available online at http://www.regulations.gov in docket ID FEMA–2011–0016. Based on the comments received, FEMA may make appropriate revisions to the proposed policy. Although FEMA will consider any comments received in the drafting of the final policy, FEMA will not provide a response to comments document. When or if FEMA issues a final policy, FEMA will publish a notice of availability in the Federal Register and make the final policy available at http://www.regulations.gov.


David J. Kaufman,
Director, Office of Policy and Program Analysis, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The intent of this policy is to identify the expenses associated with disaster-damaged research-related equipment and furnishings of eligible private nonprofit or public facilities that are eligible for reimbursement under the Public Assistance (PA) Program. FEMA requested review and comment on the draft policy from August 13, 2010, through September 13, 2010 (75 FR 49506). FEMA received and adjudicated the comments. While the final policy does not make significant substantive changes to the previously effective policy (dated April 30, 2007), the updated policy does include clarifying language in several sections. These clarifications include: additional language on FEMA authorities in section V; the addition of section VLD on the application of existing PA insurance requirements; a minor clarification in VIII.A indicating that an active research program must support an eligible function; an update to VIII.B.1 that allows an applicant input on decisions regarding the genetic likeness of lab animals; the deletion document retention language in VIII.B.3, given that existing PA documentation requirements apply to all PA projects, including involving research-related equipment and furnishings; and a minor clarification in section VIII.F by citing the specific relevant provision in the regulations.