

**(A) Reporting Requirements**

**Improving the collection of data in the PA Program as it relates to debris removal and encouraging the use of advance contracts for such services.**

**Debris Removal Advance Contract Reporting**

1. All eligible applicants, as a condition for eligibility for FEMA public assistance reimbursement, shall annually report to FEMA if they have an advanced contract in effect for debris removal.
2. If there is an advanced contract in place, the eligible applicant must also report to FEMA:
  - (i) the name of the company;
  - (ii) the geographical location covered by the contract; and,
  - (iii) the price per cubic yard of debris removed (standard unit of measurement for price?).

**Post Disaster Surveying of Recipients**

1. Require FEMA, within a reasonable time after a major or emergency disaster declaration event, to survey all PA and Army Corps recipients for debris removal on their experience with the debris removal process during the event, including:
  - a. Who completed the work?
  - b. What price per cubic yard was paid?
  - c. Any discrepancies in contracting or working with the contractor?
  - d. Any other issues of note?
2. FEMA shall collect and analysis this information to identify any trends or discrepancies and make recommendations in coordination with the FEMA OIG.

**(B) Increase Oversight of Debris Removal (per OIG findings)**

**Decreasing the improper use of PA assistance by revising the conditions of oversight and verification for debris removal as a condition of reimbursement.**

**Requirements for Verification and Debris Removal Monitoring Contracts**

1. Verification Methods — The Administrator shall, on an annual basis and in consultation with the advisory working group, develop and publish a list of approved verification methods, which may include—
  - (i) a digital photograph of each load of debris to validate load tickets;
  - (ii) a digital photograph of each truck used to haul debris to verify truck certifications; and
  - (iii) measurements of debris piles and mulch piles for comparison and verification against a photograph; and,
  - (iv) other technological advances that allow for verification of debris operations.
2. Monitoring Contracts – The Administrator shall require that any entity applying for debris removal assistance under the public assistance grant program shall, as part of the assistance application, enter into a debris removal monitoring contract to conduct oversight and verification of debris removal by contractors, which shall require that one of the verification methods approved by the Administrator be used to conduct the oversight and verification.

3. Penalties For Inaccurate Accounting Of Debris Removal Amounts — Any discrepancy between the reported amount of debris collected by a contractor and the verified amount, as determined using an approved verification method above, shall incur a penalty at 2 times the reimbursement rate of the documented discrepancy.

#### Guidance and Training

1. Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with the advisory working group shall develop and implement guidance and procedures, including clear and unambiguous rules, with respect to the oversight of debris removal contracts entered into under the public assistance grant program, including: guidance for State and local debris monitors regarding debris removal operations, debris operations oversight, and contractor oversight, including contractor monitoring.
2. The Administrator shall provide training on appropriate debris removal guidance and procedures, developed in consultation with the advisory working group, to—
  - (i) Agency debris monitors;
  - (ii) appropriate State and private entities; and
  - (iii) others?

#### **(C) Advisory Working Group**

1. The Administrator shall establish an advisory working group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery.
  - a. Membership — The advisory working group established shall be comprised of—
    - (i) debris services contractors;
    - (ii) representatives of States and units of local government;
    - (iii) representatives of the federal government;
    - (iv) academicians; and,
    - (v) other subject matter experts.