FEMA Awards Vermont More Than \$2 Million For Tropical Storm Irene Work

Release Date: August 19, 2022

BOSTON – The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending more than \$2 million to the State of Vermont to reimburse the costs of stabilizing the Waterbury State Office Complex after Tropical Storm Irene in 2011.

The \$2,052,222 Public Assistance grant will go to the Department of Buildings and General Services for work done to stabilize buildings in the complex in an effort to prevent further damage after the August 2011 storm flooded many of them.

The state received \$53 million in FEMA funding to repair or replace buildings, and spent nearly \$13 million drying, cleaning and disinfecting buildings; removing debris; and other measures to preserve the structures.

But the actual insurance proceeds the state received from their insurance settlement were less than what FEMA estimated when it determined how much reimbursement the project should receive, resulting in the \$2 million worth of costs being eligible for FEMA funding.

"Recovery from a catastrophic event like Tropical Storm Irene is a long and complex process," said FEMA Region I Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. "FEMA is pleased to assist Vermont as it wraps up the few remaining projects and prepares to close the books on Irene."

FEMA's Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency. Vermont received nearly \$209 million from the program for Tropical Storm Irene.

