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Thursday, August 07, 2008

Governor Bobby Jindal
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

By Fax and Email Only

1 (225) 342-2077

1 (225) 342-7099

RE: ***Road Home Deadline***

Dear Governor Jindal:

We wrote Tuesday, asking that you preserve the Road Home claims of thousands of Road Home applicants, who will otherwise be cut off from their chance to participate in the recovery. Paul Rainwater has since been quoted in the Times-Picayune, as defending the deadline, in large part because of the availability of extensions.

We addressed the issue of extensions in our letter to you. Neither ICF nor the LRA have the ability to determine at this juncture which claims should be cut off because people will not be successful in clearing title, etc. to their property.

We ask that you personally review this matter. Mr. Rainwater seems unduly wed to a policy that makes no sense.

If you look at it objectively, why would an ***October 2008*** deadline for submissions be created in a program that is scheduled to complete all closings by ***June 2010***? It is simply too early to decide which claims can be established by the June 2010 deadline, and trying to establish that now will unnecessarily cut people off, who fail to establish well enough that they merit an extension, for whomever will review the extension requests.

Sending people chasing to document that they should get an extension, and having ICF or LRA staff reviewing as to entitlement to extensions is an unnecessary and counterproductive waste of resources. Even if extensions were granted to all who request them, this would be unfair to others who simply fail to request them, or whose requests are sent to the wrong place, or rebuffed by ICF staff who repeatedly fail to administer policies in the way directed.

To avoid having to take other steps to have this matter resolved, we are therefore asking that you assure us in writing now that the deadline will either be dropped or not enforced.



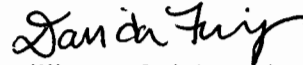
Your authority to do this is ample. As set out in our letter, the LRA is subject to the APA. Your staff can advise them that they cannot take this action without complying with the APA.

We continue to request your reply by Monday, the 11th.

Sincerely,



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