

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

June 30, 2009

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The Honorable Billy Nungesser, President  
Plaquemines Parish  
8056 Highway 23, Suite 308  
Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Dear President Nungesser:

After many frustrating months, it gives me great pleasure to know that nearly all of the 34 projects previously on hold in Louisiana due to an incomplete and ambiguous FEMA policy regarding V-Zones, can resume construction in the very near future. I welcome FEMA's policy change and hope this provides you with the federal support you need to realize a full recovery.

As Chair of the Disaster Recovery Subcommittee, I worked closely with the new Administration and incoming leadership in the Department of Homeland Security, including FEMA, to ensure that reasonable and effective V-Zone policy was developed and implemented. The recent decision frees up over \$20 million dollars in recovery funding for projects across the State.

I am proud to have led this effort in Washington, but much work remains to be done. Specifically, FEMA needs to finalize the arbitration process I authored earlier this year that will give applicants a fair and just dispute resolution mechanism when the existing appeals process proves insufficient. Under the new leadership team both in Washington and in Louisiana, the agency has made notable progress in recent months, and I am hopeful this will continue.

Thank you for your commitment to Louisiana's recovery despite the ongoing challenges that remain. Together, we will succeed as there is simply no other option. If I can be of additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Wes Kungel in my New Orleans office at 504-589-2427.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu  
United States Senator

MLl:jwk