



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
TATNALL BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR  
WILLIAM PENN STREET, DOVER, DE 19901

JACK A. MARKELL  
GOVERNOR

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September 23, 2011

Mr. Frank Skaggs, Director  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
Office of Disaster Assistance  
101 Marietta Street, NW Suite 700  
Atlanta, GA 30308

Dear Director Skaggs:

The State of Delaware experienced significant rainfall and flooding from Hurricane Irene, which affected the State on August 27 and 28, 2011. The State endured prolonged flooding of rivers and streams, as well as tidal flooding from the Delaware Bay, inundating neighborhoods and businesses. The severe weather resulted in a statewide disruption of government services and utility services, as well as an interruption to businesses, including tourism and transportation, for a prolonged period of time.

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency, in coordination with the Department of Health and Social Services, county emergency management, and representatives from the Small Business Administration (SBA), has concluded that New Castle County, Delaware, has exceeded the SBA criteria for a major disaster declaration (major damage to a minimum of 25 homes and businesses resulting in uninsured losses of 40 percent or more of the estimated fair replacement value of pre-disaster market value of the damaged property). Kent County is the only contiguous county to New Castle County in the State of Delaware.

Based on the assessment, I hereby request the SBA issue a major declaration of physical disaster for New Castle County, Delaware so that low interest loans may be made available to affected households, businesses, and building owners. The State of Delaware will not seek a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for this event.

Should you need additional information, please contact Edward Durst, Delaware Emergency Management Agency at 302-659-2249 or via email at [Edward.durst@state.de.us](mailto:Edward.durst@state.de.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J.A. Markell".

Jack A. Markell  
Governor