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May 5, 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: Regional Administrators

Regional Recovery Division Directors

FROM: Melissa K. Forbes

Assistant Administrator Recovery Directorate

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Assistance Disposition Requirements for

Equipment and Supplies Frequently Asked Questions Version 2

The purpose of this memorandum is to issue the COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Assistance Disposition Requirements for Equipment and Supplies *Frequently Asked Questions* Version 2. This document provides answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) about disposition and disposal requirements for equipment and supplies, and demobilization, including warehousing costs, for all emergency and major disaster declarations for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This document applies to all FEMA Public Assistance (PA) projects funded under a COVID-19 emergency or major disaster declaration, as well as equipment or supplies provided by FEMA as Direct Federal Assistance (DFA). This FAQ provides detailed supplemental guidance to accompany FEMA Policy # 104-22-0002: *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Public Assistance Programmatic Deadlines (Interim) Version 2*, published on March 30, 2023.

This FAQ supersedes Version 1 of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Assistance (PA) Disposition Requirements for Equipment and Supplies *Frequently Asked Questions*, published in April 2022. This FAQ document is applicable to all COVID-19 emergency and major disaster declarations. Pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), the President issued a nationwide emergency declaration on March 13, 2020, and major disaster declarations for the COVID-19 pandemic.

On February 10, 2023, FEMA issued a memorandum establishing and posted notice to the Federal Register establishing May 11, 2023, as the end of the incident period and the emergency work completion deadline for PA for all COVID-19 emergency and major disaster declarations. This will be concurrent with the expiration of the national emergency and public health emergency declarations.

As unprecedented as the COVID-19 pandemic was in the early days and months of 2020 and 2021, FEMA recognizes disposition and disposal will be equally unique for applicants to traverse in accordance with federal grant requirements. In recognition of the challenges with closing projects and ultimately COVID-19 pandemic emergencies and disasters, FEMA has provided multiple new policy flexibilities in this FAQ. Some of these include:

- Providing PA funding for disposal of eligible PA-funded equipment and supplies, which may include necessary transportation;
- Providing funding for disposal of eligible equipment and supplies that FEMA provided as DFA;
- Determining that expired equipment or supplies have \$0 fair market value, thus allowing applicants to not have to determine fair market value or identify alternate uses;
- Limited warehousing costs during the extended deadline of August 9, 2023, for demobilization, disposition, and disposal, as established in FEMA Policy # 104-22-0002: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Public Assistance Programmatic Deadlines (Interim) Version 2; and
- Time extensions for demobilization, disposition, and disposal beyond August 9, 2023.

The COVID FAQ Version 2 is now live on FEMA.gov posted <u>COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Assistance Disposition Requirements for Equipment and Supplies</u>. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Robert Pesapane, Acting Director, Public Assistance Division, at <u>Robert.Pesapane@fema.dhs.gov</u>.

Attachment: COVID 19 Pandemic: Public Assistance Requirements for Disposition of Equipment and Supplies *Frequently Asked Questions* Version 2