

The Committee continues to be concerned that individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) may be underserved during disaster response efforts. The Committee directs FEMA to coordinate with representatives of LEP populations on ways to address their needs through the agency's preparedness and response capabilities. FEMA is directed to provide a report on its efforts to coordinate with LEP populations within six months after the date of enactment of this Act.

#### IMPACT OF CLIMATE ON FUTURE DISASTERS

The Committee is concerned that FEMA does not have a robust climate change program in place to assess the potential impact of future disasters on its ability to prepare for, mitigate against, and respond to natural disasters; its managing of the National Flood Insurance Fund; and its efforts to help maintain accurate maps of the nation's flood plains. To begin to address the shortfall in information about the impact of climate change, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 for the State of North Carolina to perform a risk assessment and mitigation strategy demonstration of the potential impacts of sea level rise in that state associated with long-term climate change. FEMA is directed to use the study results to assess the long-term fiscal implications of climate change as it affects the frequency and impacts of natural disasters, and to disseminate information from the study to other states to inform their climate change mitigation efforts.

#### FLOOD CONTROL AND HAZARD MITIGATION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

The Committee is aware of several existing flood control projects in the Upper Cumberland and Big Sandy watershed undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers following the flood of 1977 that can potentially serve as demonstrative interagency flood control and hazard mitigation solutions. The Committee provides \$2,425,000 to conduct demonstration flood control and hazard mitigation projects with interagency stakeholders, including FEMA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and State and local agencies. Funds are provided to demonstrate a wide range of project solutions across FEMA's multiple disaster preparedness and mitigation programs, including: retrofitting and hardening of existing flood walls and levees; pump refurbishment; land acquisition; transportation infrastructure modifications; and other flood damage reduction projects within this watershed.

#### FLORIDA HURRICANE RECOVERY

FEMA is directed to maintain the Florida long-term recovery office as long as sufficient work remains to be completed following the 2004 and 2005 hurricanes that struck the State. FEMA is further directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations 60 days prior to closing the office.