



FEMA

April 10, 2014

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin:

This is in response to your March 21, 2014, request for a major disaster declaration for the State of West Virginia as a result of a severe water outage due to contamination from a chemical spill during the period of January 9-20, 2014. You specifically requested emergency protective measures (Category B), including direct federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program for nine counties and Hazard Mitigation statewide.

Based on our review of all of the information available, the request does not meet the legal definition of a "major disaster" under 42 U.S.C. § 5122, as implemented at 44 C.F.R. §§ 206.2(17). The incident was not a result of a natural catastrophe, nor was it caused by a fire, flood, or explosion.

This denial may be appealed within 30 days after the date of this letter. Any appeal pursuant to 44 CFR § 206.46, along with additional information justifying the appeal, should be submitted to the President through Mary Ann Tierney, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region III, located at One Independence Mall, 6th Floor 615 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4404.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Craig Fugate".

W. Craig Fugate
Administrator