

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 15, 2011

Karen Mills, Administrator
US Small Business Administration
409 3rd St, SW
Washington, D.C. 20416

Dear Administrator Mills:

We strongly urge you to declare the County of Los Angeles and the City of Rancho Cucamonga a disaster area in response to the severe windstorm that struck the area beginning on November 30, 2011.

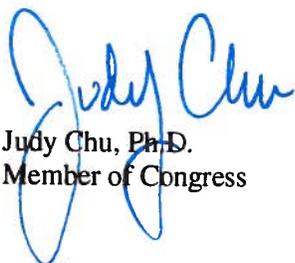
The Small Business Administration (SBA) and the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) conducted a damage assessment earlier this week and this assessment revealed that the SBA's threshold has been met for disaster assistance with at least 25 homes and businesses having uninsured losses of 40 percent or more of their value. On December 15, Cal EMA Acting Secretary Mike Dayton officially requested a disaster declaration in order for affected businesses to receive disaster loans through SBA.

The winds wreaked havoc in the Los Angeles County region which left devastation and suffering in their wake, with many cities' public and police facilities running on generators, and hundreds of thousands of residents left without power for days on end.

Dozens of buildings have been red-tagged due to damage from falling trees and branches, leaving families homeless right before the holidays. The winds caused millions of dollars in damage and as crews clean up debris from public and private property, cities and residents face several months of recovery efforts ahead of them. Many cities directly affected by the winds declared states of emergency, including Alhambra, South Pasadena, Pasadena, San Marino, San Gabriel, Temple City, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Glendora, Rosemead, Arcadia and City of Rancho Cucamonga. Our region needs SBA disaster loans to help them recover and move forward.

Thank you for your kind and timely attention to this matter. If you have any question please do not hesitate to contact us directly.

Sincerely,



Judy Chu, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



David Dreier
Member of Congress



Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

cc: Mr. James Rivera, Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance, SBA
Mr. Alfred Judd, Director, Field Operations Center West, SBA