

# AEMA Memo

**To:** Jeff Smitherman  
**From:** Michael Johnson  
**cc:**  
**Date:** July 25, 2016  
**Re:** PA Lessons Learned from Disaster 4251 (External)

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During the progression of the recovery process in this disaster several new requirements were placed on the state and applicants. These “lessons learned” are discussed below.

- Borrow Pits  

Applicants must document the location (GPS coordinates and/or street address) in order to satisfy FEMA EHP Review requirements.
- USACE Nationwide Permit  

FEMA EHP is requiring the inclusion of correspondence with USACE demonstrating that any project involving a waterway (culverts, etc.) does or does not fall under the USACE Nationwide Permit.
- FEMA EHP and USF&W  

Inclusion of FEMA EHP in coordination with USF&W is critical in the early process of conducting JPDAs. Applicants should be actively involved in the process to eliminate performing work in an environmentally sensitive area which could jeopardize funding.
- ACEA/ALDOT County Road Design Policy  

FEMA will accept the codes and standards upgrades proscribed in the policy if a county has formally adopted the policy, implemented it prior to a declared event, and has uniformly applied it in the past.
- Minorities and Women Owned Businesses and Contracting  

Applicants must demonstrate that they have actively pursued the inclusion of these types of business when contracting out work. Web links for 4 distinct websites are provided under the “News Archive” at [grants.ema.alabama.gov](http://grants.ema.alabama.gov).