



Memorandum

**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement – DOT
Hurricane Preparedness and Response Follow-Up to
Previous OIG Recommendations
Office of the Secretary
Project No. 07N3001A000

Date: August 3, 2007

From: David A. Dobbs 
Principal Assistant Inspector General
for Auditing and Evaluation

Reply to
Attn of: JA-10

To: Director, Office of Security, Intelligence, and
Emergency Response

During the 2005 hurricane season, several storms, most notably Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, caused widespread damage to large parts of the Gulf Coast. The Department of Transportation (DOT), in conjunction with other Federal agencies, provided critical services and financial support to affected communities. This included providing emergency funding for infrastructure projects and overseeing the transportation of food, water, and other commodities to affected communities.

In the aftermath of the storms, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted a series of audits and investigations that examined the Department's controls over the relief efforts. These reviews were conducted to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of Federal funds and resulted in recommendations to improve controls over the financial aspects of providing emergency services.

Given the importance of these services, and to ensure that the Department is adequately prepared for addressing similar emergencies, we plan to conduct an audit to evaluate the Department's status in implementing OIG recommendations relating to the 2005 hurricane season.

The objective of the audit is to assess actions taken by the Department to address OIG recommendations for improving internal controls over DOT's emergency disaster relief efforts.

We will contact the Department's audit liaison to arrange an entrance conference with the appropriate modal administrations. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Robert Martin, Assistant Inspector General for Aviation and Special Programs, at (202) 366-0500 or Dan Ravielle, Program Director, at (202) 366-1405.

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cc: Martin Gertel, M-1