



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Honorable Joel Brennan
Secretary
Department of Administration
State of Wisconsin
101 East Wilson Street
Madison, WI 53707-7970

Dear Mr. Brennan:

Thank you for your letter of April 28, 2020, regarding the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration's request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to expand the HUD-defined Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) area designation to include Vernon County in Wisconsin's 2018 Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) allocation.

The State has provided information describing specific critical needs in Vernon County that support its claim that the county is one of the MID counties as a result of the data provided. This data is based on the metric of per capita impact of the disaster as well as the number of destroyed and most severely damaged homes. After a review of the State's request and accompanying data, the Department finds that good cause exists to expand the area defined as the MID specific to the severe storms, tornados, straight line winds, flooding and landslides due to 2018 Disasters. The State is hereby permitted to include Vernon County within its MID area with respect to the use of CDBG-DR funds awarded to the State pursuant to the CDBG-DR appropriation under Public Law 116-20. The Department has the authority to waive regulatory requirements as established in 24 CFR 5.110. This request, however, is not a waiver of a regulatory requirement and therefore will not be published in a subsequent *Federal Register* Notice.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Tennille S. Parker, Director, Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division, at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

John Gibbs
Acting Assistant Secretary