

### Initial Debris Clearance

Initial debris clearance activities, also known as cut and push, are the first phase of debris removal in which crews remove debris that poses an immediate threat to life or safety from the roads and place the debris in the right of way for later pickup and removal. During the cut and push operations, IED contracted with CC&C Contractors to provide one work crew and various items of equipment. The CC&C crew worked for five days and submitted daily sheets detailing hours each employee worked and the items of equipment that were used. During all five days of the cut and push activities, Mr. James Clark, owner of CC&C, was listed as the foreman and operating a truck for the work crew. The time sheets detailed that Mr. Clark worked and operated a truck between 10 and 12 hours per day for a total of 58 hours. IED subsequently submitted an invoice which contained charges for Mr. Clark's labor and vehicle usage totaling \$5,800.

In addition to ownership of CC&C, Mr. Clark is the full-time director for the Livingston Parish Sewerage District 1 & 2 (District). During four of the five days Mr. Clark reported working for CC&C, he also reported working and operating a truck for 63 hours for the District. The District submitted all employees' time and equipment operations, including Mr. Clark's time and truck usage, for that time period to FEMA for reimbursement.

We spoke to Mr. Clark concerning the hours he reported working for CC&C and the District. Mr. Clark stated that he worked for the District the entire time and he was never present for the cut and push activities; however, he was in contact with his crew the entire time via cellular phone. Mr. Clark stated that since he owns CC&C, he is entitled to receive compensation and that even though he was not present at the CC&C worksite, he still reported hours for himself on the time sheets. Mr. Smith Day and Mr. Rock Malone of IED stated that they were not aware that Mr. Clark was not performing the cut and push activities and that he should not be paid if he was not physically at the worksite.

We recommend that the Parish:

- (1) require IED to ensure that only persons actually doing the eligible work are billed;
- (2) review all invoices and available documentation for cut and push activities to ensure that payment is only made for work performed; and
- (3) ensure that debris contractors in possible future disasters monitor and document all cut and push operations to ensure that only work performed is billed to the Parish.

### Subcontractors Employment of Family Members of Parish Officials

Three subcontractors of IED, the parish's debris removal contractor, employed or contracted with immediate family members of two Parish Council members, Mr. Jimmie McCoy Sr. and Mr. Don Wheat. According to parish debris removal records, such as drainage canal tickets, emergency crew daily sheets, and monitor reports, at least two of the council members' immediate family were working for sub-contractors of IED as vehicle operators during debris