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GENERAL NEWS

HUD Publishes Notice on Use of \$2 Billion in Disaster Recovery Funds for Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands

Today in the *Federal Register*, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) published a [notice](#) governing the use of \$2 billion in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery ([CDBG-DR](#)) funds for electric power system enhancements and improvements for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The funds are part of the \$28 billion allocated on April 10, 2018, under the Further Additional Supplemental appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018.

According to the notice, CDBG-DR funds for electrical power system improvements provide a unique and significant opportunity for the grantees to carry out strategic and high-impact activities to address necessary expenses and mitigate disaster risks to their electrical power systems; improve system reliability, resiliency, efficiency, and sustainability; and address each system's long-term financial viability. In the action plan governing the use of the funds, grantees are required to describe how the funds will be used to address the needs of vulnerable populations, protected classes, and underserved communities; how the funded activities primarily benefit low and moderate-income persons; and how the planned improvements will be designed and implemented to address the impacts of climate change.

Today's notice describes requirements established by the Appropriations Act, as well as waivers and alternative requirements that apply to the CDBG-DR funds for electrical power system improvements. Further details can be found in the [notice](#).



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