

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 31, 2018

The Honorable William B. Long  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Long:

I am writing regarding FEMA's announcement it will stop delivering food and water to residents of Puerto Rico as of Wednesday January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 in the wake of Hurricane Maria. It is unclear how you arrived at this decision given that many islanders lack basic necessities, including hundreds of thousands that still don't have access to clean water or electricity.

While it is true that stores, gas stations, banks and ATMs are reopening, more than 35 percent of Puerto Rican residents still do not have a way to safely store food in refrigerators. Indeed, the Mayor of San Juan, Carmen Yulín Cruz, in response to the FEMA announcement stated that she is aware that many children in parts of the island do not have enough food to eat.

As the Ranking Member of the Committee with jurisdiction over U.S. Insular Areas, including Puerto Rico, and in view of the fact Puerto Rico is far from recovered and is in desperate need of more – not less-- federal help, I would appreciate you informing me of the:

1. Rationale you used to arrive at your decision to end food and water delivery?
2. Specific metrics that FEMA uses to determine when it is appropriate to transition from emergency response to recovery?

Thank you in advance for your response to this request.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Natural Resources