



# PRESS RELEASE

## Hurricane Ike Disaster Recovery Funding Scores

### *ETCOG Ranks Proposed Projects for East Texas Recovery Funding*

**Kilgore, TX, June 15, 2009:** Projects requested by East Texas entities applying for Hurricane Ike Disaster Recovery funds from the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) have now been scored and ranked by the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG). Project scoring was based on the ETCOG Regional Review Committee objective scoring criteria which consists of poverty rate, per capita income and unemployment rate. The projects are now classified as "projects nominated for funding" under ORCA guidelines and can be viewed on our website, [www.etcog.org](http://www.etcog.org), at [www.etcog.org/files/articles/65-ikecountyfunding.pdf](http://www.etcog.org/files/articles/65-ikecountyfunding.pdf).

### **Disaster Recovery Funding Process**

ETCOG notified of \$9,224,823.25 funding availability	February 9
Workshop held to discuss the development of a Method of Distribution	February 13
Public Hearings held for Method of Distribution	February 16, 18
Meeting held with Counties to discuss County scoring criteria	April 15
ORCA grant writing workshop held	April 15
Submittal of objective scoring criteria by County	April 24
Public hearing held regarding County criteria	April 28
Amended MOD & submitted to ORCA	April 29
ORCA approved MOD and application draft	May 8
ETCOG released approved MOD	May 11
Applications sent to eligible entities	May 11
Deadline for entities to have sent project applications to ETCOG	June 1
ETCOG released scored applications	June 5

Entities with projects nominated for funding are now responsible for sending applications directly to ORCA. The application deadline is June 30, 2009. Extension requests are handled on a case by case basis.

For more information, contact Community & Economic Development Manager, Julie Burnfield at (903) 984.8641 x237 or [julie.burnfield@etcog.org](mailto:julie.burnfield@etcog.org).

### **About ETCOG**

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.