



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm Service Agency
Illinois State Office
P.O. Box 19273
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9273

USDA is an Equal
Opportunity Employer

January 26, 2011
Reply to: FLP: raz

Honorable Jerry Costello
U. S. Representative, District 12
144 Lincoln Place Court, Suite 4
Belleville, Illinois 62221

Dear Congressman Costello:

Effective January 25, 2011, Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture, declared counties in Illinois natural disaster areas due to losses caused by drought. Counties affected by this declaration are:

Illinois Primary Counties (16)

**Alexander
Edwards
Franklin
Gallatin**

**Hamilton
Hardin
Jackson
Johnson**

**Massac
Pope
Pulaski
Saline**

**Union
Wayne
White
Williamson**

Illinois Contiguous Counties (7)

**Clay
Jefferson**

**Marion
Perry**

**Randolph
Richland**

Wabash

This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance payments program, which was approved as part of the Food, Conservation and Emergency Act of 2008. FSA will consider each application on its own merit by taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

Emergency loan applications will be received through September 26, 2011. Applications pending on the above date may be processed and completed. The disaster declaration number is S3097.

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incident period is July 31, 2010.

Sincerely,

Scherrie V. Giamanco
State Executive Director
Illinois State FSA Office
Cc: FLO – J/M/P