May 2, 2011

Mr. Art Faulkner  
Director, Alabama Emergency Management Agency  
P.O. Drawer 2160  
Clanton, AL 35046-2160

Attn: Mr. Benjie Abbott  
Recovery Section Chief

RE: Collection of Storm Related Debris from Rights-of-Way on State Routes, US Routes and Interstate Routes

Dear Mr. Faulkner:

The Emergency Relief Program (ER) is administered by FHWA and is the primary program used by ALDOT for recovery after eligible emergency or major disaster events. ER covers the restoration of the travel way and clear zones on the Federal-aid Highway System regardless of owner. Debris removal is part of the restoration process, but the ER program explicitly limits that removal to debris that was placed on the travel way or in the clear zone by the event (i.e. storm, tornado, hurricane, etc.) Debris removed from private property and placed on the right-of-way for pickup is not covered by ER.

ALDOT's position is that storm debris removed from private property and placed on state-owned right-of-way should be picked up by the appropriate local government in the same manner that private debris is picked up at any other time. Additional information regarding debris removal can be found in the FHWA ER Manual or at the following website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/programadmin/erelief.cfm.

If you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact Mr. George Conner, ALDOT Maintenance Engineer.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John R. Cooper  
Transportation Director

JRC/GHC/lc

cc: Mr. D. W. Vaughn/Chief Engineer & Deputy Director  
Mr. G. M. Harper/Asst. Chief Engineer  
Mr. Lesley Morrissette/Maintenance Bureau  
Mr. Ronald L. Baldwin/Office Engineer  
Division Engineers  
Mr. Mark Bartlett/FHWA

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