



STATUS UPDATE

FEMA SPONSORED BUYOUT PROGRAM-PHASE 1

June 25, 2013

Flood Buyout Progress Report

The Town of Union has submitted over one hundred buyout applications for final approval to the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO). To date, seventy five of the applications have been approved and the remaining applications are currently being reviewed.

The decision to have the state pick up the remaining twenty five percent local share has caused a delay in the buyout process at the state level. Discussions are currently taking place between state officials regarding the most efficient method for reimbursement to the affected communities. As soon as the town is informed that the funds can be distributed, the town will inform you. At this point, the lack of money from the state is the only delay in the scheduling of closings.

In an effort to reduce administrative costs, staff associated with the buyout program will be working on an "as needed" basis. While the majority of the property owners have contacted the town as to whether they desire to proceed with the buyout program, there are some that have not indicated whether they desire to continue. These cases will be resolved and final paperwork collected once the property owners contacts the town. The most effective method to contact the buyout staff is by e-mail (srafferty@townofunion.com).

Page two of this notice contains information pertaining to properties that are currently vacant and no longer require electric, gas, or water service. Please read the information and if utility services can be disconnected at this time, please take the time to contact the appropriate agency. This will assist the town in the demolition process for these properties.

Gas, Electric, and Water Service Disconnections

The Town of Union is asking for your assistance in streamlining the demolition process once the closing on your property takes place.

Due to the number of demolitions that are planned in the Town of Union, as well as other areas in Broome County, it would be helpful to the Town, NYSEG, and the village water departments if services could be cut prior to the actual closings.

If gas, electric, and water services have not been restored since the flood and you have no longer need to have these services reconnected, it would be beneficial if you could contact these agencies to have the services removed.

New York State Electric and Gas has been kind enough to provide a phone number for you to call if gas and/or electric service can be cut. You can call the dedicated number at **1-800-453-1931** to request that service be cut. You should make it known that your property is in the buyout program and that the structure will be demolished.

For Village of Endicott Water customers, you can call 757-2445 and request that water service be removed. For Village of Johnson City water customers, you can call 797-2523.

This will assist all agencies involved in the demolition process. The sooner the structures are demolished, the sooner the neighborhoods will be on the final road to recovery. Once again, thank you for your continued cooperation and patience in this long process.