



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

PO BOX 325

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0325

TEL (609) 292-7272

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

KENNETH E. KOBYLOWSKI
Acting Commissioner

BULLETIN NO. 12-12

TO: ALL INSURERS AUTHORIZED OR ADMITTED TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN THIS STATE AND ALL LICENSED INSURANCE PRODUCERS

FROM: KENNETH E. KOBYLOWSKI, ACTING COMMISSIONER

RE: ACTIVATION OF CATASTROPHE RESPONSE PLANS

The potential for widespread property damage in this State resulting from Hurricane Sandy has increased during the previous 24 hours. Accordingly, all authorized or admitted property/casualty insurers writing or that have in-force property or multiline insurance policies covering property risks resident or located in this State on the date of this Bulletin are reminded of the need to activate their Disaster Response Preparation Plan or Catastrophe Plan (or however else designated), marshaling all appropriate resources to secure operations and provide timely assistance to insureds. Property/casualty insurers are also reminded of their obligations with respect to the activation of such plans as set forth in Order Nos. A07-126 and A09-103, which may be viewed on the Department's website at <http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/lrorders.htm>. Depending on the severity of the conditions, such obligations may include, but not be limited to, the obligation to suspend the cancellation and nonrenewal of policies for reasons related to the occurrence of the disaster or catastrophic event (e.g., for missed premium payments) and utilizing an expedited and simplified claims process.

All authorized and admitted insurers are also reminded that, if conditions warrant, any so-called "deemer" timeframes specified in various authorities within which the Department is required to act on a filing from an insurer may be suspended for the duration of the disaster or catastrophic event.

All producer licensees are encouraged to take all necessary actions to ensure their ability to promptly service claims and provide other essential services to insureds affected by the storm.

October 25, 2012

Date

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Kenneth E. Kobylowski
Acting Commissioner