

Federal government awards \$9.6M in Sandy recovery grants to the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission and N.J. DOT

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The federal government will send a total of \$9.6 million to the state Department of Transportation and the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission to fund damage assessments and repairs made in the aftermath of superstorm Sandy, U.S. Senator Bob Menendez, D-NJ, announced Monday.

A total of \$8.2 million will be sent to the sewerage commission, which runs a facility in Newark that treats sewage for nearly 1.5 million residents in towns along the Passaic River. The grants will go toward work that was done to remove debris at the facility and to repair a clarifier, a sludge storage facility and tunnels that house equipment.

Another \$1.4 million will go the Transportation Department reimburse money it spent to pay contractors who conducted sonar searches to locate hazardous debris deposited in navigation channels in Raritan Bay, Barnegat Bay and other areas.

The money comes from public assistance grants awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Congress has authorized a \$60.2 billion package of funding to help rebuild in the aftermath of Sandy, including aid to homeowners, businesses and communities.