



PAR: Bureaucracy slowing recovery

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The amount of post-hurricane federal aid provided to Mississippi and Louisiana is not proportional to the amount of damage each state suffered, according to the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana and the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government.

More than two years after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, sluggish aid distribution is the primary concern of Louisiana and Mississippi officials, the report said.

The report also criticizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance Program, which requires local governments to begin repairs and seek a reimbursement.

"While more than \$8 billion has been disbursed through these federal recovery programs, the costs for full recovery continue to climb," said PAR President Jim Brandt. "A new level of communication and cooperation will be necessary to speed up the recovery and finish the job of rebuilding this region."

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