



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

January 10, 2025

Mr. Jeffrey D. Lusk  
Director  
Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience  
Field Operations Center – West  
U.S. Small Business Administration  
6501 Sylvan Road  
Citrus Heights, California 95610-5017

Dear Mr. Lusk:

Under provisions of 13 C.F.R. Part 123.3, I respectfully request that the Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) implement an Economic Injury declaration to provide assistance in the form of Economic Injury Disaster Loans for Webb County as a result of the Laredo Boil Water Notice. The incident period began on October 10, 2024, and ended October 21, 2024.

A water connection issue related to a sewer line required the city of Laredo to suspend all non-emergency water usage to contain and reduce further water contamination. As a result, a boil water notice was issued on October 10, 2024, and affected an estimated 267,945 residents and 5,698 businesses. To address the concern the city implemented clean water access points and coordinated water truck deliveries to the area, which includes two hospitals. On October 19, 2024, the boil water notice was extended for central and south Laredo due to positive E. coli samples, following recommendations from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The incident ended on October 21, 2024. Webb County has documented the economic impact of their losses.

A survey of the affected businesses was conducted to determine the economic impact of their losses. Based upon these surveys, I certify that at least 5 small businesses in the disaster area have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the disaster and need financial assistance not otherwise available on reasonable terms.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please contact the Governor's Authorized Representative, Chief Nim Kidd at (512) 424-2443.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott  
Governor

GA:smd