



CCCL Outreach – Post Storm Emergency Permitting

Storm Recovery Assistance

In the frenzy of cleanup, recovery and rebuilding activities caused by hurricanes and other coastal storms that stir up Florida’s Atlantic and Gulf beaches, beachfront communities get busy removing storm debris, returning overwashed sand to the beach, and making emergency repairs to walkovers, homes, condominiums, roads, parks and other coastal infrastructure. Beaches Program staff of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection are deployed to assess post-storm beach and dune conditions. For properties seaward of state Coastal Construction Control Lines ([CCCLs](http://www.FloridaDEP.gov/CCCL)), emergency permit procedures kick in to assist recovery efforts of beachfront property owners, local governments and other state agencies while maintaining protections for coastal resiliency and wildlife conservation.



Figure 1 House foundation exposed on a beach eroded by storm waves. Reinforcement of threatened foundations is eligible for local government or CCCL emergency permits under the Department of Environmental Protection’s Emergency Final Order.

Post-storm procedures expedite permitting seaward of the CCCL for emergency repairs and relief measures like bringing in beach compatible sand for dune restoration, placing sandbags, shoring-up or reinforcing the foundations of threatened buildings, or installing temporary coastal armoring. Emergency procedures are activated by the Governor’s *Declaration of Emergency* and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s (FDEP) issuance of an Emergency Final Order. This document describes post-storm permit procedures for activities seaward of the coastal construction control line.

CCCL Emergency Permitting

With a major storm impacting Florida's beaches, the Governor issues a *Declaration of Emergency*. This action names the impacts and counties covered by the emergency and waives certain state restrictions for emergency response activities. Following issuance of the Governor's declaration, FDEP issues an *Emergency Final Order* (EFO). This action can suspend the provisions of statutes and rules governing the agency's issuance of permits required under Chapters 161, 253, 258, 373, and 403 of the Florida Statutes (FS), and establish emergency procedures. Within the FDEP's purview under Chapter 161, FS, the EFO authorizes local governments, state agencies and utility companies to conduct specific emergency response activities to protect, repair, or replace public infrastructure, structures, and property seaward of the CCCL without a Department permit if strict compliance with provisions of statute or rule would delay critical emergency recovery activities. CCCL emergency permit procedures are set out in Rule 62B-33.014, FAC, and emergency permit application forms are available [online](#). The EFO also authorizes local governments to issue permits, in lieu of CCCL permits, to private and public property owners to conduct certain emergency response activities to protect, repair, or restore property and structures seaward of the CCCL. Copies of the Department's EFOs, titled "OGC...Emergency Authorization...", are located on the Beaches Hurricanes and Tropical Storms [website](#).



Figure 2 Emergency procedures enable state and local governments to place sand to protect roadways and restore dunes without a CCCL permit. Sand must be trucked in from an upland source (not scraped from the beach), similar to the native beach sand in both coloration & grain size, free of construction debris, rocks, clay, or other foreign matter and must not cover any hurricane debris.

Local Government Emergency Permitting – Emergency Relief Measures

Local governments can perform these emergency measures seaward of the CCCL under the authority and direction of the FDEP issued *Emergency Final Order*, Section C. 3, under the auspices of Section 161.085(3), FS, and following the Department's CCCL Rule 62B-33.0051(5), Florida Administrative Code (FAC). Within the EFO, guidance to local governments is given in Section 3, *Coastal Construction Control Line ("CCCL") Activities*. Emergency relief provisions are contained in EFO Section C. 3. a. *Activities Undertaken by Local Governments, Agencies of the State of Florida and Utility Companies*. Local government authority for emergency permitting of the CCCL, including minor repairs, protecting structures from further damage and dune restoration, is contained in EFO Section 3. C. paragraph b., *Activities Requiring Local Authorization*. The public information handout titled "*Post-Storm Guidance: Coastal Construction Control Line*," details these post-storm activities and explains what type of permitting (either a local government permit or a CCCL permit) is required for each. Local

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government permitting of temporary armoring falls under EFO Section 3. C., paragraphs C. 3. b. (2), and c. (2)(e) as described further below.

Local Government Emergency Permitting – Temporary Coastal Armoring

Either in exercising its authorities under a post-storm EFO, or in the event that the local government declares an emergency itself under the provisions of Section 161.085, FS, a city or county can approve the installation of temporary coastal armoring seaward of the CCCL. Under these state laws, the temporary structures or sand fill **must** be authorized by a local government permit or a CCCL permit prior to installation. It is also imperative that the affected local government and private property owner(s) understand that the approval is **temporary** and that they must either apply to the Department for a CCCL permit for a properly designed **permanent** coastal protection structure or remove the temporary coastal armoring within sixty (60) days of installation.



Figure 3 Under CCCL emergency permit procedures, beachfront property owner can install temporary wooden retaining walls, cantilever sheet pile walls (without caps, tiebacks, or other reinforcement), or sand bags (less than 100 pounds each).

CCCL coastal armoring permits are required for government agencies and private property owners intending for the temporary protection to remain as permanent coastal armoring. For permit approval, the upland property must be eligible and vulnerable per state permit criteria, and must be designed and installed in a manner which meets the requirements outlined in CCCL Rule 62B-33.0051(5), FAC. The state's temporary armoring policies are detailed in the document "*Guidance to Local Governments for Emergency Temporary Coastal Armoring and Other Measures Seaward of the CCCL*," available [online](#).

Coastal Construction Control Line Program Emergency Permitting Contacts and Resources

During pre-storm preparations or after a storm event, FDEP Beaches staff are available to assist local governments and property owners with emergency permitting information and processing seaward of state coastal construction control lines. In addition, CCCL emergency permitting materials are available on-line.

- CCCL Program: www.FloridaDEP.gov/CCCL; [email](#); phone 850-245-8570
- CCCL Program Administrator: Doug Aarons, [email](#); phone 850-245-7672
- Coastal Armoring Permits: Celora Jackson, [email](#); phone 850-245-7668
- CCCL Permit Managers: [contact information](#)
- Beaches Hurricane Coordinator: Fritz Wettstein, [email](#); 850-245-8020 (o), 850-491-2387 (c)
- CCCL Emergency Permitting Page: [website](#)
- CCCL [Post Storm Public Information Handout](#)
- [Guidance to Local Governments for Emergency Temporary Coastal Armoring and Other Measures Seaward of the CCCL](#)
- [Post-Hurricane Recovery Sand Specification](#)
- Beaches Hurricanes and Tropical Storms (EFOs): [website](#); 850-245-2094 (RCP main line).
- Beaches Funding Assistance: [website](#)
- Beaches Inlets and Ports Program: [website](#)
- Coastal Engineering and Geology Group: [website](#)