

**Robert Simkavitz**

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**From:** Alfonso Martinez-Fonts  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 29, 2005 8:58 PM  
**To:** NERR  
**Subject:** National Emergency Resource Registry

Dear National Emergency Resource Registrant,

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, I would like to personally thank you for offering your goods or services to the hurricane relief efforts of 2005.

As you know, the hurricanes of this past year, in particular, Katrina, Rita and Wilma imparted unparalleled destruction on the Gulf Coast of the United States. In response to those events, the Department established the National Emergency Response Resource Registry (NERR) so as to offer a virtual warehouse that the private sector and emergency responders could access to support the communities victimized by these storms.

It pleases me to report that NERR was utilized to locate and deploy many items and services to aid hurricane victims in both the affected areas and in other geographies where people were displaced. Clearly, many people benefited from the source information you provided.

As a first time effort, NERR utilization provided us some very valuable lessons. There was much that worked and did not work with the NERR but one thing is for certain " the private sector showed its generosity and diversity by posting millions of dollars in goods and services on the system. The lessons learned are being compiled and reviewed in order to look for improved ways for the Department and emergency responders to make use of the generous offerings submitted by the Private Sector.

Though not all resources and services were utilized, we remain grateful for each and every offer. The contents of the registry greatly illustrate the tremendous generosity of Americans. NERR was a valuable first step in what the Department is confident will lead to improved engagement of the Private Sector during future emergencies.

The Department of Homeland Security will be shutting down NERR effective December 30, 2005. If your resources were not utilized through NERR, we encourage you to donate them to your favorite charity.

Again, thank you for your generosity and support during this trying time in our nation's history.

Regards,

Al Martinez-Fonts  
Assistant Secretary, Private Sector  
Department of Homeland Security

Homeland Security is everyone's responsibility. If you wish to report suspicious information that you believe relates to terrorism or that may result in the prevention of terrorism, please submit that information via the Report link at [www.nerr.gov](http://www.nerr.gov). Your report will be immediately received and reviewed by DHS and the FBI:

The National Emergency Resource Registry (NERR) is part of DHS's Homeland Security Information Network Critical Infrastructure (HSIN-CI). NERR information is voluntary and reliance on it should only be undertaken after an independent review of its accuracy, completeness, and timeliness.