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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

**STEVE ISRAEL**  
Third District, New York

February 6, 2014

Mr. William Craig Fugate  
Administrator  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate:

I write to you today to call your attention to a critical road salt shortage in my congressional district. While Governor of New York Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) have been responsive to this situation, I want to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is aware of this issue and is ready to mobilize resources as needed to ensure the roadways are safe.

As you know, New York State has been hit by a recent wave of snow storms with freezing rain and frigid temperatures, causing school closings, dangerous roadways and massive traffic delays. Our communities have responded to the challenge, but the sheer amount of snow has caused road salt shortages, as suppliers cannot meet the demand from our counties, towns and villages.

The NYSDOT typically uses about 30,000 tons of road salt per winter on Long Island —this year, the NYSDOT has used 46,000 tons and we are only halfway through the winter season. New York State is currently operating under a state of emergency, which has allowed Governor Cuomo to direct the NYSDOT and Thruway Authority to move surplus salt supplies from the State's stockpiles to those communities in need.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in 2013 the U.S. experienced seven different weather and climate disaster events, each with losses exceeding \$1 billion in damages. As these severe weather events continue, I urge your team to make certain that federal resources are ready should New York's road salt supply further deplete and necessitate assistance from FEMA. It is of the utmost importance to me that roadways in my district in Queens and on Long Island are safe. That's why I am contacting you in advance so that FEMA is ready and able to mobilize.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Israel".

STEVE ISRAEL  
Member of Congress