For Immediate Release

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Vermont Department of Labor Offers Additional Resources for Disaster Cleanup

The Vermont Department of Labor can help employers and contractors who are seeking to hire workers with the clean-up, repair or demolition work.

The DOL Career Resource Centers – located in 12 regions across the state – have professional staff members who can help employers by using our Vermont Job-Link System to identify "ready and available" workers to match to the job openings. As an example, last week a company from Johnson, Vermont working on the clean-up at the Waterbury office complex, asked DOL to refer 100 workers to them, and by the end of that same day 150 people were contacted and referred to the employer. Since last Friday, the Department has taken in over 15 job orders for more than 500 workers, and our regional offices are helping employers find laborers for these jobs.

If you are an employer – or a job seeker – please contact the Vermont Department of Labor to assist you in finding workers or for help in finding a job. For a listing of VDOL's regional offices, visit our website at www.labor.vermont.gov under Disaster Unemployment Assistance/VDOL Resource Centers, or by calling 802-828-4000.

The Department's VOSHA and Project WorkSafe staff are available for consultation and guidance to all employers and contractors involved in the disaster repair work to ensure that the work is being performed properly, to avoid health and safety hazards to workers performing the work. The Vermont Department of Labor also reminds employers and contractors to be certain that a valid Vermont worker compensation policy is covering the employees, particularly given the hazards that exist with the disaster clean-up, repair or demolition work. The Department can help you check if a contractor has valid Vermont WC coverage. To identify if a contractor has a worker compensation coverage visit www.labor.vermont.gov, click on Worker Compensation Insurance Coverage Verification under the Information Center green bar on the homepage or go to http://labor.vermont.gov/InfoCenter/WorkersCompensationInsuranceCoverageVerificat/tabid/1473/Default.aspx