



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
P.O. BOX 2675
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105-2675

LINDA BLANCHETTE
Deputy Secretary for
Income Maintenance

JAN 18 2008

PHONE: (717) 783-3063
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Mr. William Kluxen
Regional Director
United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service, Mid-Atlantic Region
Mercer Corporate Boulevard
Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691-1598

Dear Mr. Kluxen:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is requesting an extension and modification of our current waiver #2020019.

Attached please find the justification and computations for the waiving of 44 counties and 6 cities as follows:

Counties:

Armstrong	Columbia	Lawrence	Schuylkill
Beaver	Crawford	Luzerne	Somerset
Bedford	Elk	Lycoming	Sullivan
Blair	Erie	McKean	Susquehanna
Bradford	Fayette	Mercer	Tioga
Cambria	Forest	Mifflin	Union
Cameron	Greene	Monroe	Venango
Carbon	Huntingdon	Northumberland	Warren
Clarion	Indiana	Philadelphia	Washington
Clearfield	Jefferson	Pike	Westmoreland
Clinton	Lackawanna	Potter	Wyoming

Cities:

Allentown	McKeesport
Chester	Reading
Harrisburg	York

The average, or aggregate average, unemployment rate for all of the counties and cities listed above exceeded the average U.S. unemployment rate by at least 20 percent during the 24-month period of March 2005 to February 2007.

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We have sent via electronic copy the spreadsheets and source documents showing the average unemployment rates for the aforementioned counties and cities. This unemployment data was compiled entirely from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics website.

Thank you for your consideration of this waiver request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Cheryl Davis, Director, Bureau of Employment and Training Programs, at 717-787-8613.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. Blanchette".

Linda Blanchette

Attachment

cc: Ms. Davis