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Bobby Jindal, Governor
Curt Eysink, Executive Director

Office of the Executive Director

June 25, 2012

A.G. Crowe
 President
 LIGTT Board Authority
 195 Strawberry Street
 Slidell, Louisiana 70460

RE: State designation of a high unemployment area

Dear Mr. Crowe:

This letter serves as official certification by State of Louisiana that the three areas described in more detail in the tables below qualify as Targeted Employment Areas (TEAs) as defined by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' EB-5 Investor Visa Program. Under the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 8, Section 204.6, the state government of any state of the United States may designate a particular geographic or political subdivision located within a metropolitan statistical area or within a city or town having a population of 20,000 or more within such state as an area of high unemployment (at least 150 percent of the national average rate). These three TEAs, which are comprised of contiguous census tracts near the mouth of the Mississippi River, have experienced unemployment rates exceeding 150 percent of the national average unemployment rate during the comparable 12-month period, and thus qualify as areas of high unemployment.

To make these determinations, the Louisiana Workforce Commission used the most recent unemployment data available at the census tract level, which was provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS) through its Local Area Unemployment Statistics from July 2010 to June 2011. The national average unemployment rate over this period was 9.3%. Therefore, TEAs must have an aggregate unemployment rate of 13.95% or higher (9.3% x 1.50). As shown in the table below, the three TEAs have unemployment rates of 14.9%, 14.4%, and 15.2% respectively, all of which exceed the required rate of 13.95%.

Targeted Employment Areas

TEA #1

Census Tract	Labor Force	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
050100	671	77	11.5
030101	233	24	10.3
030104	682	136	19.9
Total	1586	237	14.9%

TEA #2

Census Tract	Labor Force	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
050100	671	77	11.5
050600	658	86	13.1
030101	233	24	10.3
030104	682	136	19.9
Total	2244	323	14.4%

TEA #3

Census Tract	Labor Force	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
000200	338	60	17.8
000300	345	60	17.4
000400	618	98	15.9
000605	607	45	7.4
000701	918	135	14.7
000702	797	128	16.1
000901	646	98	15.2
000902	660	105	15.9
000904	546	98	17.9
001100	803	105	13.1
001200	807	60	7.4
001401	725	113	15.6
001402	746	120	16.1
001500	505	113	22.4
001600	206	113	54.9
001706	21	0	0
001714	145	45	31
001733	394	38	9.6
006700	130	23	17.7
007700	665	60	9
008101	384	113	29.4
008102	108	15	13.9
008700	208	23	11.1
008900	502	75	14.9
010400	142	0	0
025800	910	103	11.3
026000	1049	129	12.3
026900	1457	349	24
027300	249	52	20.9
027400	1705	259	15.2
027602	1314	272	20.7

027701	2686	414	15.4
030101	233	24	10.3
030104	682	136	19.9
030204	155	16	10.3
030204	1628	217	13.3
030603	917	168	18.3
050100	671	77	11.5
050400	137	9	6.6
050400	912	77	8.4
050600	658	86	13.1
050800	643	26	4
Total	27,972	4,257	15.2

If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (225) 342-3143 or jdantoni@lwc.la.gov.

Sincerely,



Jeremy M. D'Antoni, Ph.D.
Labor Market Manager

CC: Patrick Harvey, President, LIGTT Regional Center