

# **Policy Clarifications - SNAP PFS16418580**

**Submitted: 11/12**

**Agency: CAOs**

**Citations:**

**Subject: Verification Needed for SNAP Replacement Benefits**

A recipient is requesting SNAP benefit replacement and states they were without power for four or more hours due to Hurricane Sandy. What verification does the CAO need to confirm the recipient was without power?

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**Response By: Division of Federal Programs**

**Date:11/13/12**

If a recipient states they were without power but has no verification of the power outage, the CAO should assist the client in obtaining the verification. The CAO should call the recipient's power company to verify that the household was without power. The CAO can also verify this information through a collateral contact, documentation from a community agency, a home visit, newspaper articles, PEMA websites, and power company websites. If the CAO has made every attempt to verify the recipient was without power but unsuccessfully, they may take the client's statement.