

August 28, 2018
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about collapse. Analyses of Puerto Rico's slow and deadly recovery from hurricane Maria provides a frightening window into the effects of a disaster under a corrupt and ineffective administration. A Harvard study released in May and a GWU study this week both point to thousands of deaths spread over many months which an effective response would have prevented. Corruption both in San Juan and Washington set the stage for a protracted recovery with widespread power outages lasting for months and stolen funds such as the millions siphoned to Whitefish by Secretary Zinke. In the past nineteen months one federal agency after another - State, EPA, CFPB, Education - has suffered the same evisceration as FEMA with inexperienced political appointees at the helm and career staff sidelined or pushed out. It seems only a matter of time before something serious happens and the federal government is overwhelmed.

Please assure me that you will rebuild the government.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our effective governance.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson