



**FEMA**

September 12, 2016

The Honorable Orrin Hatch  
President Pro Tempore  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

In accordance with Section 17 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-89), I am pleased to certify that our ongoing National Flood Mapping Program produces technically credible flood hazard data in areas where Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are developed or updated.

To support the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), FEMA is charged with identifying, updating, and maintaining reliable flood hazard information. Since the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (BW-12) (Public Law 112-141), FEMA has worked aggressively to analyze and address the requirements associated with flood mapping, including the establishment of a Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC). FEMA has also established an integrated project team to review the mandates set forth in BW-12 Section 216 for the National Flood Mapping Program to determine the extent to which our current program aligns with the BW-12 statutory mandates, and to plan the enhancements and changes needed to implement remaining mandates.

Consistent with Section 17 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014, my certification of the National Flood Mapping Program has been informed by the TMAC. Earlier this year, FEMA asked the TMAC to review FEMA's ongoing National Flood Mapping Program and provide me with a report (enclosed here). The TMAC reviewed the structure, process, outputs, quality management, and metrics for the National Flood Mapping Program, and concluded that it produces technically credible flood hazard data in areas where FIRMs are developed or updated.

While I am certifying that the National Flood Mapping Program produces technically credible flood hazard data, we have not yet fully addressed all of the flood mapping requirements in BW-12 and the recommendations from the TMAC in its 2015 Annual Report and Future Conditions Risk Assessment and Modeling Report. We continue to work closely with the TMAC and our mapping partners to address the most challenging aspects of flood mapping, including future conditions and areas of residual risk or inundation, and other transformational changes that the TMAC has recommended. We anticipate that the TMAC will provide additional mapping program recommendations to FEMA on an annual basis. The mapping program is designed to evolve, and we will use our semiannual Guidelines and Standards process to implement program enhancements to

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address legislative requirements and TMAC recommendations, in accordance with available resources and within our regulatory framework. The program, with its established update process, is able to continually respond to changing customer needs, future conditions, and advances in science and technology.

Thank you for your continued support of the flood mapping program, a critical component of the NFIP that reduces risk across our nation. Inquiries relating to this certification may be directed to me at (202) 646-3900.

Sincerely,



W. Craig Fugate  
Administrator

Enclosure

*Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC) Review Report (June 2016)*