



December 20, 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: Craig Fugate
Administrator

FROM: James Featherstone
Chairman
National Advisory Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "James Featherstone", written over the printed name.

SUBJECT: Recommendations from September 27-28, 2011 Meeting

The purpose of this memorandum is to forward the National Advisory Council's (NAC) recommendations from the September 27-28, NAC meeting in Arlington, Virginia for your consideration.

The Council met in a public session for the purpose of reviewing the progress and deliberating potential recommendations of the following four NAC subcommittees: Preparedness and Protection, Response and Recovery, Public Engagement and Mission Support, and Federal Insurance and Mitigation.

The NAC discussed the "Whole Community" concept and how to effectively engage all levels of the community. Other topics of discussion included: the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) on National Preparedness, the Strategic Foresight Initiative (SFI), the Emergency Management Institute, and the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program. Through its discussions and deliberations, the NAC concurred to forward the following seven recommendations. These recommendations cover: the National Preparedness System, the Public Assistance Program, the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program, and the Emergency Management Training and Education System.

Recommendation on the National Preparedness System:

1. FEMA should be formally established as the lead federal coordinating agency for the National Preparedness System.

Discussion: The NAC members believe that there should be one single "broker" for all federal programs and agencies. FEMA is the ideal agency for this role. The intent is not that FEMA would have directive authority but would be the central coordination point for all federal programs and agencies. This would decrease confusion at the local level and provide locals one federal agency to consult for response or recovery assistance. In the discussion there were several examples cited where state and local agencies have

gotten conflicting information from different federal agencies that have caused considerable delays in obtaining appropriate assistance. Generally, locals interact with FEMA on a more regular basis than with other agencies, and this recommendation reinforces established communication networks.

Recommendation on the Public Assistance Program:

2. FEMA should ensure that the concept of mitigation is fully integrated into the Public Assistance Program.

Discussion: This recommendation reinforces the NAC's recommendations regarding mitigation for the Bottom-Up Review of the Public Assistance Program from the *Recommendations from May 11-12, 2011 National Advisory Council Meeting* memo dated July 14, 2011. Regarding the Hazard Mitigation Program (404 and 406 Program) recommend further ties and incentives to do this as a part of any comprehensive plan in order to have mitigation programs and recovery operate in a more coordinated manner. The cost-benefit analysis needs to be restructured in order to allow local governments, of all sizes, to effectively participate.

Recommendation on the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program:

3. The Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program should include catastrophic scenarios and no fault exercises.

Discussion: The Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program (REPP), while administered by FEMA, is a fee for services billed to the utilities on an annual basis for both the general and site specific costs for carrying out the program, the funding is in place at the beginning of every fiscal year. The regulatory basis is in 44 CFR 354.

This creates discrepancies between the regulations and roles of stakeholder agencies, specifically with catastrophic planning. At this time, it appears that a number of the exercises that are executed, simply check a box. There needs to be a true exercise program that will generate real results regarding readiness.

Recommendations on the Emergency Management Training and Education System:

4. The NAC considers the Emergency Management Training and Education System (EMTES) to be critical for today's emergency management workforce and to future professional development. The NAC recommends that FEMA support the EMTES in its continued development, distribution, and on-going programmatic support.

Discussion: EMTES provides career long training and supports professionalism in the field of emergency management and is developing training at the foundational, executive/managerial, specialized, and technical levels. The National Emergency Management Academy completed two pilots of a week-long Emergency Management

Foundations course in June and July 2011 and shared an evaluation of and lessons learned from the pilots. The pilots validated the target audience and 15 key foundational topics and established a path and peer-to-peer network for lifelong learning in the field of emergency management.

5. Among the other identified distribution channels, FEMA should leverage community colleges as potential providers of the EMTES.

Discussion: EMTES identified states and regions as roll-out channels for the National Emergency Management Academy. After the Foundations course is finalized, the National Emergency Management Academy should explore other providers to deliver the training because the target audience (e.g. individuals from a jurisdiction or private sector business) may not have the capacity to be absent from their job for a week of training.

6. Provide regular updates to the Subcommittee on the EMTES program, including an opportunity to advise on the Executive - Managerial level program.

Discussion: The Preparedness & Protection Subcommittee has been engaged with the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) since April 2011 and has received information briefings from Vilma Milmo, the Acting Superintendent/Deputy Superintendent at EMI. The Subcommittee looks forward to the opportunity to provide valuable input to the Foundations training and would like to continue providing feedback as the programs develop at EMI.

7. FEMA should develop end-state metrics (compared from baseline values) to measure the effectiveness of EMTES on emergency management nationally.

Discussion: Metrics have already been developed to evaluate the success of the participants and their feedback. However, metrics should also measure whether the instruction and training are successfully implemented, used, and improve the field of Emergency Management at all levels.

Again, the Council appreciated the opportunity to provide recommendations to FEMA.