



FEMA

MAY 13 2014

Ms. Nancy Dragani, Director
Ohio Emergency Management Agency
2855 West Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2206

Dear Ms. Dragani:

I am pleased to inform you that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), formally approves the *2014 State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan*, officially adopted for the State of Ohio on May 8, 2014. The plan is now in compliance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requirements for an updated Enhanced State Mitigation Plan.

The State of Ohio Enhanced Plan is set to expire May 13, 2019 as result of a Final Rule changing the Mitigation Planning regulations (44 Code of Federal Regulations Part 201) published in the Federal Register (80 FR 22873) and effective May 27, 2014. The Rule reduces the frequency of Standard and Enhanced State Mitigation Plan updates by extending the update requirement from 3 to 5 years.

The approval of this plan ensures the continued availability of non-emergency Stafford Act funding for the next three years within the State of Ohio. This includes the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (at an increased 20% level), Fire Management Assistance Grant Program, and Public Assistance Grants (Categories C-G). All requests for funding, however, will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility and other requirements of the particular program under which the application is submitted.

Subsequent submissions of updates to the State of Ohio Enhanced Plan will be eligible for an expedited review consistent with the Mitigation Planning Memorandum (MT-PL) #14.

If you have any questions regarding the planning process, please contact Christine Stack, Mitigation Division Director, at (312) 408-5570.

Sincerely,


Andrew Velasquez III
Regional Administrator

**State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan
STATEMENT OF ADOPTION**

The State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan (SOHMP) is a comprehensive description of the State's commitment to reduce or eliminate the impacts of natural and human-caused hazards. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires that states have a natural hazard mitigation plan to maintain eligibility for federal disaster assistance and mitigation funds. The SOHMP is coordinated and maintained by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, however, the plan is the culmination of input and recommendations from numerous stakeholders from local, state and federal government agencies, private sector organizations, and residents of Ohio.

The SOHMP was initially approved by FEMA on January 17, 2005 and has been updated every three years. The previous plan was updated and approved by FEMA as meeting the "enhanced" plan requirements on June 12, 2012. The 2014 plan update will again meet the "enhanced" plan criteria. This "enhanced" plan status is a testament to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency's commitment to mitigation and will allow the state to continue to qualify for additional funds following future disaster declarations.

In adopting the 2014 update of the SOHMP, the State of Ohio agrees to comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations, as stipulated in previously documented assurances, and will update the plan at least every five years. The SOHMP has been amended to reflect emerging hazard conditions and risks as well as new or revised state and federal statutes and regulations. Future amendments will also reflect changes to State organization or policy as appropriate.

As the Executive Director of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, I the undersigned do hereby formally adopt the State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014 update.



Nancy J. Dragani, Executive Director
Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Date: 5/8/14



- Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- **Emergency Management Agency**
- Emergency Medical Services
- Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Ohio Homeland Security
- Ohio Investigative Unit
- Ohio State Highway Patrol



John R. Kasich, Governor
John Born, Director
Nancy J. Dragani
Executive Director

Emergency Management Agency
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May 9, 2014

Ms. Christine Stack, Director
Mitigation Division
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region V
536 S. Clark Street, Sixth Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Director Stack:

Please find attached the document that officially adopts the State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan. Upon receipt of the plan approval letter, the state will issue a press release announcing the plan status and describing where the plan can be found on our website.

I would like to thank FEMA Region V for their continued efforts to support hazard mitigation in the State of Ohio. If you have any questions, please do not to hesitate to contact Mr. Steve Ferryman, CFM, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, at (614) 799-3539.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy J. Dragani", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

NANCY J. DRAGANI
Director

Enclosures

NJD/saf

cc: Sima Merick, Assistant Director, Ohio EMA
Steve Ferryman, CFM, Ohio EMA, State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Rebecca Leitschuh, FEMA Region V, Planner Specialist
Jennifer Redmond, FEMA Region V, Mitigation Specialist

Mission Statement

"to save lives, reduce injuries and economic loss, to administer Ohio's motor vehicle laws and to preserve the safety and well being of all citizens with the most cost-effective and service-oriented methods available."