



FEMA

J.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Office of Legislative Affairs
Telephone 202-646-4500
Fax 202-646-3600

CONGRESSIONAL ADVISORY

Letter to National Response Plan (NRP) Revision Stakeholders

April 12, 2007

Below is a copy of an email that was sent out earlier this week by the NRP Co-Chairs at FEMA to all the stakeholders working on revising the NRP.

Dear Colleagues,

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has worked closely with stakeholders over the past few months to revise the National Response Plan (NRP). The process has been very productive and we appreciate the hard work and dedication by those involved in this process.

Since the NRP is such an important document, any changes to its key concepts must be understandable and acceptable to all stakeholders.

As this NRP revision process unfolded, it became apparent that some important issues were more complex than we originally thought and require national-level policy decisions. We also came to the realization that creating a more user-friendly document that clearly addressed the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and incident management structures would require substantial format changes to the NRP. Although the underlying operational principles of the NRP remain intact, additional time is needed to complete a comprehensive draft, worthy of an engaged review process.

While we are committed to producing a revised NRP in a timely manner, we also want the plan to be thorough and accurate. Therefore, we have decided to delay the release of the first draft of the NRP so that these issues can be resolved.

An updated timetable has not been determined, but we will share one with you quickly. We will make sure that the new timeline includes adequate time to allow stakeholders to review and comment on the document.

In the meantime, the structures and mechanisms of the original NRP, with modifications from the May 2006 Notice of Change, are still intact and should be used for any hazard or threat occurring prior to the approval and release of the revised NRP.

We appreciate everyone's support in this complex process and look forward to working with you to produce a modified NRP that meets the Nation's needs.

For further information please contact FEMA's Office of Legislative Affairs at 202- 646-4500.