



FEMA

November 8, 2010

Honorable Bud Norris
Mayor, City of Mount Vernon
PO Box 809
Mount Vernon, Washington 98273

Honorable Edward J. Brunz
Mayor, City of Burlington
900 East Fairhaven Avenue
Burlington, Washington 98233

Mr. Charles H. Bennett, Commissioner
Skagit County Dike, Drainage & Irrigation District No. 12
1317 S. Anacortes Street
Burlington, Washington 98233

Dear Community Leaders:

This letter is in response to your October 6, 2010, letter to me requesting that we delay the official start to the 90-day appeal period for the Skagit County Flood Insurance Study (FIS). I apologize for the tardiness of this response.

On October 29, 2010, we were notified by our Regional Support Center that the documentation required to initiate the appeal process, pursuant to 44 CFR Part 67, was submitted to FEMA National Headquarters for review. Given current estimates of time it takes to initiate an official notification in the Federal Register, which must occur prior to, or in conjunction with, the two publications in the local newspaper notifying the public of the proposed changes to the base flood elevations, we estimate that the statutory appeal period will begin in early December 2010 (one month beyond what you requested).

As I have a more specific date and publication schedule, I will provide you with an update. If you have any questions, please contact me at ryan.ike@dhs.gov or by calling my office at (425) 487-4767.

Sincerely,

Ryan Ike, Chief
Risk Analysis Branch

cc: Jana Hanson, Director, Mount Vernon Community and Economic Development Dept
Dan Berentson, Natural Resources Division Manager, Skagit County Public Works
Chuck Steele, WA Dept of Ecology
Dave Carlton, STARR

RI:bb