



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

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RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

IN REPLY REFER TO: **MAR 19 2008**
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March 17, 2008

The Honorable J. Daniel Kemp
Mayor, City of Hopkinsville
101 North Main Street
Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Community: City of Hopkinsville, KY
Community No.: 210055
Map Panels Affected: 21047C0244C, 0263C,
0264C, 0331C, 0332C, 0333C, 0334C, 0351C,
0352C, 0353C, 0354C, 0356C, 0358C, 0361C,
0362C, 0363C, 0364C, 0366C, 0367C, 0386C,
0390C, 0452C, 0454C, 0455C

Dear Mayor Kemp:

This is to formally notify you of the final flood elevation determination for the City of Hopkinsville, Christian County, Kentucky in compliance with Title 44, Chapter I, Part 67, Section 67.11, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). This section requires that notice of final flood elevations shall be sent to the Chief Executive Officer of the community, all individual appellants, and the State Coordinating Agency, and shall be published in the *Federal Register*.

On September 5, 1979, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) that identified the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), the areas subject to inundation by the base (1-percent-annual-chance) flood, in your community. Recently, FEMA completed a re-evaluation of flood hazards in your community. On February 9, 2007, FEMA provided you with Preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report and FIRM that identify existing flood hazards in your community, including Base Flood Elevations (BFEs). The proposed BFEs for your community were published in The Kentucky New Era on July 5, 2007 and July 12, 2007 and in the *Federal Register*, at Part 67, Volume 72, Page 40808, on Wednesday, July 25, 2007.

The statutory 90-day appeal period, which was initiated on the second newspaper publication date cited above, has ended. FEMA did not receive any appeals of the proposed BFEs during that time. Accordingly, the BFEs for your community are considered final. The final rule for BFEs will be published in the *Federal Register* as soon as possible. The FIRM for your community will become effective on September 17, 2008. Before the effective date, FEMA will send you final printed copies of the FIS report and FIRM.

Because the FIS report establishing the BFEs for your community has been completed, certain additional requirements must be met under Section 1361 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, within 6 months from the date of this letter. Prior to September 17, 2008, your community is required, as a condition of continued eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), to adopt or show evidence of adoption of floodplain management regulations that meet the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d) of the enclosed NFIP regulations (44 CFR 59, etc.) by the effective date of the FIRM. These standards are the minimum requirements and do not supersede any State or local requirements of a more stringent nature.

It must be emphasized that all the standards specified in Paragraph 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations must be enacted in a legally enforceable document. This includes adoption of the current effective FIS report and FIRM to which the regulations apply and other modifications made by this map revision. Some of the standards should already have been enacted by your community in order to establish initial eligibility in the NFIP. Your community can meet any additional requirements by taking one of the following actions:

1. Amending existing regulations to incorporate any additional requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d);
2. Adopting all the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d) into one new, comprehensive set of regulations; or
3. Showing evidence that regulations have previously been adopted that meet or exceed the minimum requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d).

Communities that fail to enact the necessary floodplain management regulations will be suspended from participation in the NFIP and subject to the prohibitions contained in Section 202(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-234) as amended.

In addition to your community using the FIS report and FIRM to manage development in the floodplain, FEMA will use the FIS report and FIRM to establish appropriate flood insurance rates. On the effective date of the revised FIRM, actuarial rates for flood insurance will be charged for all new structures and substantial improvements to existing structures located in the identified SFHAs. These rates may be higher if structures are not built in compliance with the floodplain management standards of the NFIP. The actuarial flood insurance rates increase as the lowest elevations (including basement) of new structures decrease in relation to the BFEs established for your community. This is an important consideration for new construction because building at a higher elevation can greatly reduce the cost of flood insurance.

To assist your community in maintaining the FIRM, we have enclosed a Summary of Map Actions to document previous Letter of Map Change (LOMC) actions (i.e., Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs), Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs)) that will be superseded when the revised FIRM panels referenced above become effective. Information on LOMCs is presented in the following four categories: (1) LOMCs for which results have been included on the revised FIRM panels; (2) LOMCs for which results could not be shown on the revised FIRM panels because of scale limitations or because the LOMC issued had determined that the lots or structures involved were outside the SFHA as shown on the FIRM; (3) LOMCs for which results have not been included on the revised FIRM panels because the flood hazard information on which the original determinations were based are being superseded by new flood hazard information; and (4) LOMCs issued for multiple lots or structures where the determination for one or more of the lots or structures cannot be revalidated through an administrative process like the LOMCs in Category 2 above. LOMCs in Category 2 will be revalidated through a single letter that reaffirms the validity of a previously issued LOMC; the letter will be sent to your community shortly before the effective date of the revised FIRM and will become effective 1 day after the revised FIRM becomes effective. For the LOMCs listed in Category 4, we will review the data previously submitted for the LOMA or LOMR request and issue a new determination for the affected properties after the revised FIRM becomes effective.

The FIRM and FIS report for your community have been prepared in our countywide format, which means that flood hazard information for all jurisdictions within Christian County has been combined into one FIRM and FIS report. When the FIRM and FIS report are printed and distributed, your community will receive only those panels that present flood hazard information for your community. We will provide complete sets of the FIRM panels to county officials, where they will be available for review by your

community.

The FIRM panels have been computer-generated. Once the FIRM and FIS report are printed and distributed, the digital files containing the flood hazard data for the entire county can be provided to your community for use in a computer mapping system. These files can be used in conjunction with other thematic data for floodplain management purposes, insurance purchase and rating requirements, and many other planning applications. Copies of the digital files or paper copies of the FIRM panels may be obtained by calling our Map Service Center, toll free, at 1-800-358-9616. In addition, your community may be eligible for additional credits under our Community Rating System if you implement your activities using digital mapping files.

Carey Johnson of the Kentucky Division of Water and Laura Algeo of FEMA Region IV are available to assist your community with any difficulties you may be encountering in enacting the floodplain management regulations. In addition, a FEMA Regional Project Officer (RPO) has been designated to assist your community. Any questions may be directed to the following addresses:

FEMA Region IV
Federal Insurance and Mitigation
Koger Center-Rutgers Building
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 220-5400

Kentucky Division of Water
Water Resources Branch
14 Reilly Road
Frankfort, KY, 40601
(502) 564-3410

If you have any questions concerning mapping issues in general or the enclosed Summary of Map Actions, please contact either Carey Johnson of the Kentucky Division of Water, (502) 564-3410, or the FEMA Map Assistance Center, toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

Sincerely,



William R. Blanton Jr., CFM, Chief
Engineering Management Branch
Mitigation Directorate

List of Enclosures:

National Flood Insurance Program Elevation Certificate and Instructions
Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Effect That Revised Flood Hazards Have on Existing Structures
Lowest Floor Elevation Certifications for Flood Insurance Post Flood Insurance Rate Map Construction
Use of Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Data as Available Data
National Flood Insurance Program Regulations

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Final Summary of Map Actions

cc: Community Map Repository
Community Floodplain Administrator