

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 28, 2011

W. Craig Fugate, Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 C Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate:

We write today to express our concerns about the impact of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Map Modernization Program on our constituents. At the outset, please know that we appreciate the responsiveness of your agency to past concerns and its willingness to discuss the many technical aspects of this program with us and our staff.

We continue to hear from constituents about the negative impact of this program on their homes and livelihoods. Many Oklahomans are frustrated because they were not made aware that their homes fell within the newly-drawn floodplain until they received notification from their mortgage companies. As a result, they are now forced to pay flood insurance totaling thousands of dollars or choose the costly Letter of Map Amendment or Letter of Determination Review processes. We do not believe our constituents should be forced to expend money on either of these if the original mapping is found to have produced inaccurate floodplain designations.

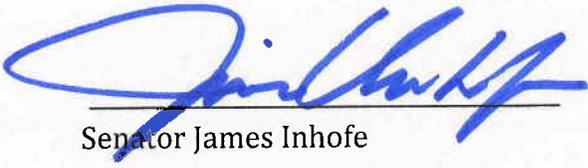
We feel it is extremely unfair that families, who have relied on previous floodplain maps when deciding to move to a particular location, are now being told they will have to bear additional costs, and perhaps a decrease in the value of their home, all because of a new determination by a government agency. We understand the necessity of providing up-to-date floodplain maps and the need to prepare for possible natural disasters in a particular geographic location, but we must balance these needs with the fact that many Oklahomans are negatively impacted by this program through no fault of their own.

We are aware that LIDAR mapping has been completed for at least five Oklahoma counties and believe completion of this project should be a top priority for your agency. Corrections to previous maps may help alleviate the economic impact on our constituents,

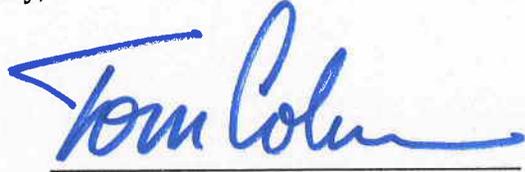
and we urge you to prepare and distribute updated, accurate information as quickly as possible. In the meantime, if you have any data that identifies the number of Oklahoma households placed in the newly drawn floodplains, that information would prove useful as we seek to serve our constituents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



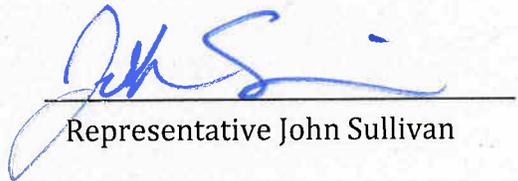
Senator James Inhofe



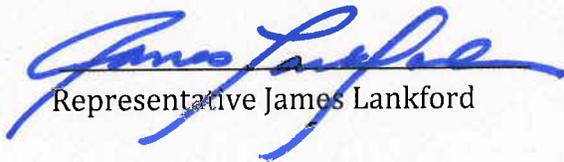
Senator Tom Coburn



Representative Dan Boren



Representative John Sullivan



Representative James Lankford