



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Telephone 202-646-3444

FEMA SEEKS COMMENT ON “LEVEE-INCLUSIVE” METHOD FOR FLOOD MAPPING AND ANALYSIS EFFORTS

Greater Mapping Precision Allows Better Flood Risk Awareness

As part of on-going efforts to reform the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), FEMA has been working with stakeholders to revise FEMA’s process for mapping flood risk with respect to levees. We have determined that an improved approach will enable FEMA to provide maps that more precisely reflect the flood risk experienced by families living behind levees.

Over the recent months, FEMA has explored a spectrum of possible scenarios to address the one percent-annual-chance flood risk in the vicinity of levees, and evaluated multiple approaches through extensive stakeholder, independent, technical, and public input.

As with other, recently-adopted tools that have increased FEMA mapping accuracy, such as digital mapping technology, these new methods add to FEMA’s overall continually improving flood mapping and analysis. These new levee-inclusive tools aid in compiling more precise technical data and allow FEMA to more effectively assess the actual flood risk faced by citizens in communities throughout the nation.

FEMA is proposing a new mapping process for levees and is seeking public comment on its new mapping methodology. Flood mapping remains a team effort that requires close coordination between FEMA, its federal partners, the state and local communities to ensure that the most precise data is reflected in flood maps as they are finalized.

FEMA welcomes comments from the public during this **45-day** public comment period that is open until **January 30, 2012**. A copy of the Federal Register Notice is attached. Please see for instructions on submitting comments. For more information on the public comment, please visit <http://federalregister.gov/a/2011-32128>.

FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.