



FEMA

FEB 16 2012

Mr. Jim Russell
State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Division of Homeland Security
and Emergency Management
444 Cedar Street- Suite #223
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-6223

Dear Mr. ^{Jim}Russell:

Thank you for submitting the adoption documentation for the Benton County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan was reviewed based on the local plan criteria contained in 44 CFR Part 201, as authorized by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. We are pleased to inform you that the plan is now approved for the county and the cities of Foley, Gilman, Rice and Sauk Rapids. According to our records, the plan has now been approved by the county and all the participating jurisdictions.

The approval of this plan ensures continued availability of the full complement of Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants. All requests for funding, however, will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility and other requirements of the particular program under which the application is submitted.

Over the next five years, we encourage the cities to work with Benton County to follow the plan's schedule for monitoring and updating the plan, and continue their efforts to implement the mitigation measures. The plan must be reviewed, revised as appropriate, resubmitted, and approved within five years in order to continue project grant eligibility.

Please pass on our congratulations to the county for completing this significant action. If you or the county has any questions, please contact Tom Smith at (312) 408-5220.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Stack".

Christine Stack, Director
Mitigation Division