Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

IN REPLY REFER TO:
19P-N

December 16, 2010

Mr. James Stahle
Sahuarita Town Manager
375 West Sahuarita Center Way
Sahuarita, Arizona 85629

Community: Town of Sahuarita,AZ
Community No.: 040137
Map Panels Affected: See FIRM Index

Dear Mr. Stahle:

This is to formally notify you of the final flood hazard determination for your community in compliance with Title 44, Chapter I, Part 67, Code of Federal Regulations. On February 8, 1999, 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 the Town of Sahuarita, Pima County, Arizona. Recently, FEMA completed a re-evaluation of flood hazards in your community. On May 29, 2009, FEMA provided you with Preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report and FIRM that identify existing flood hazards in your community.

FEMA has not received any comments on the Preliminary copies of the FIS report and FIRM. Accordingly, the FIS report and FIRM for your community will become effective on June 16, 2011. Before the effective date, FEMA will send you final printed copies of the FIS report and FIRM.

Because the FIS 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 June 16, 2011, 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 NFIP regulations (44 CFR 59, etc.). 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 the other modifications made by this map revision. Some of the standards should already have been enacted by your community in order to establish eligibility in the NFIP. Any additional requirements can be met 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 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 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 Base Flood Elevations 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 (SOMA) 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 is 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 Pima 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 FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX), toll free, at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627). In addition, your community may be eligible for additional credits under our Community Rating System if you implement your activities using digital mapping files.

If your community is encountering difficulties in enacting the necessary floodplain management measures required to continue participation in the NFIP, we urge you to call the FEMA Regional Office in Oakland, California. You may reach Mr. Edward Curtis, P.E., CFM, Senior Engineer, at (510) 627-7207. In addition, the Arizona Department of Water Resources is available to assist your community. You may reach Mr. Brian Cosson, CFM, the NFIP State Coordinator, at (602) 771-8657, or our FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-226-2627). If you have any questions concerning mapping issues in general or the enclosed Summary of Map Actions, please call our FMIX at the toll free number shown above. Additional information and resources your community may find helpful regarding the NFIP and floodplain management, such as *The National Flood Insurance Program Code of Federal Regulations*, *Answers to Questions About the National Flood Insurance Program*, *Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Effects that Revised Flood Hazards have on Existing Structure, Use of Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Data as Available Data,* and *National Flood Insurance Program Elevation Certificate and Instructions,* can be found on our website at http://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/lfd. Paper copies of these documents may also be obtained by calling the FMIX.

Sincerely,

Luis Rodriguez, P.E., Chief
Engineering Management Branch
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

Enclosure:
Final Summary of map Actions

cc: Community Map Repository
Mr. Farhad Moghimi, P.E., Town of Sahuarita Engineer and Director of Public Works
Ms. Susanne Shields, Director, Pima County Flood Control District
The Honorable John McCain, United States Senator
The Honorable Jon Kyl, United States Senator
The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords, U.S. Representative
The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva, U.S. Representative

FINAL SUMMARY OF MAP ACTIONS

Community: SAHUARITA, TOWN OF Community No: 040137

To assist your community in maintaining the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), we have summarized below the previously issued Letter of Map Change (LOMC) actions (i.e., Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs) and Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs)) that will be affected when the revised FIRM becomes effective on June 16, 2011.

1. LOMCs Incorporated

The modifications effected by the LOMCs listed below will be reflected on the revised FIRM. In addition, these LOMCs will remain in effect until the revised FIRM becomes effective.

LOMC	Case No.	Date Issued	Project Identifier	Old Panel	New Panel
102	98-09-442P	10/01/1999	MADERA HIGHLANDS	04019C3905K	04019C3465L 04019C3955L
LOMR	09-09-1217P	02/24/2010	MADERA HIGHLANDS	04019C3415K 04019C3905K	04019C1655L

2. LOMCs Not Incorporated

The modifications effected by the LOMCs listed below will not be reflected on the revised FIRM panels because of scale limitations or because the LOMC issued had determined that the lot(s) or structure(s) involved were outside the Special Flood Hazard Area, as shown on the FIRM. These LOMCs will remain in effect until the revised FIRM becomes effective. These LOMCs will be revalidated free of charge 1 day after the revised FIRM becomes effective through a single revalidation letter that reaffirms the validity of the previous LOMCs.

LOMC	Case No.	Date Issued	Project Identifier	Old Panel	New Panel
			NO CASES RECORDED		

3. LOMCs Superseded

The modifications effected by the LOMCs listed below have not been reflected on the Final revised FIRM panels because they are being superseded by new detailed flood hazard information or the information available was not sufficient to make a determination. The reason each is being superseded is noted below. These LOMCs will no longer be in effect when the revised FIRM becomes effective.

LOMC	Case No.	Date Issued	Project Identifier	Reason Determination Will be Superseded
			NO CASES RECORDED	

FINAL SUMMARY OF MAP ACTIONS

Community: SAHUARITA, TOWN OF Community No: 040137

1. Insufficient information available to make a determination.
2. Lowest Adjacent Grade and Lowest Finished Floor are below the proposed Base Flood Elevation.
3. Lowest Ground Elevation is below the proposed Base Flood Elevation.
4. Revised hydrologic and hydraulic analyses.
5. Revised topographic information.

4. LOMCs To Be Redetermined

The LOMCs in Category 2 above will be revalidated through a single revalidation letter that reaffirms the validity of the determination in the previously issued LOMC. For LOMCs issued for multiple lots or structures where the determination for one or more of the lots or structures has changed, the LOMC cannot be revalidated through this administrative process. Therefore, we will review the data previously submitted for the LOMC requests listed below and issue a new determination for the affected properties after the effective date of the revised FIRM.

LOMC	Case No.	Date Issued	Project Identifier	Old Panel	New Panel
			NO CASES RECORDED		