EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 12/18/02 EDO CONTROL: G20020684
DOC DT: 11/15/02
FINAL REPLY:

Joe M. Allbaugh
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

TO:

Chairman

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** GRN ** CRC NO: 02-0778

Travers

DESC:

Opportunity for Collaborative Assessments

ROUTING:

Travers
Paperiello
Kane
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Collins, NRR
Virgilio, NMSS

DATE: 12/03/02

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:

NSIR Zimmerman

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Coordinate with NRR and NMSS.

Template: SECY-017

ERids: SECY-01

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Dec 02, 2002 13:30

PAPER NUMBER:	LTR-02-0778	**LOGGING DATE:**	12/02/2002
ACTION OFFICE:	EDO		
AUTHOR:	Joe Allbaugh		
AFFILIATION:	FEMA		
ADDRESSEE:	Agency Heads		
SUBJECT:	Opportunity for collaborative assessments		
ACTION:	Appropriate		
DISTRIBUTION:	RF		
LETTER DATE:	11/15/2002		
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EDO --G20020684

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

NOV 15 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary of Agriculture
Secretary of Commerce
Secretary of Defense
Secretary of Energy
Secretary of Health and Human Services
Secretary of Transportation
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Attorney General
Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

FROM: Joe M. Allbaugh
Director

SUBJECT: Opportunity for Collaborative Assessments

FEMA will be sponsoring a National Emergency Management Baseline - Capability Assessment Program during fiscal years 2003 and 2004. This enterprise will be conducted using the Emergency Management Accreditation Program standard and assessment strategy. The process will involve, for each state and territory, a comprehensive self-assessment followed by a thorough, rigorous on-site assessment conducted by a credentialed assessment team comprised of experienced emergency managers. These state-by-state assessments will give us a reliable and defensible national baseline of our current capabilities to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters. We plan to begin actual on-site assessments in January 2003.

During the recent National Emergency Management Association Conference, state representatives were unanimous in their appeal that we try to unify this program, and assessment schedule, with any other assessment activities being planned or contemplated by other federal agencies. Toward that end, if your agency, or organizations therein, is planning or contemplating any self-assessment or on-site assessments of state emergency response capabilities within your functional areas of concern, we would like to offer you the opportunity to synchronize those assessment requirements/visits with our National Emergency Management Baseline - Capability Assessment Program schedule. Let me emphasize that this is not a proposal to merge our respective assessment programs, merely an attempt to synchronize their delivery to reduce the burden on the states of supporting and hosting a potential succession of assessment teams and activities.

Please let me know if you are interested in pursuing or further exploring an interagency collaboration in this regard. If you have any questions about this proposal, I encourage you to contact Bruce Baughman, Director of my Office of National Preparedness, at 202-646-2981.

cc: State Emergency Managers
State Homeland Security Advisors
National Governors Association
National Emergency Management Association
Office of Homeland Security
FEMA Administrators
FEMA Assistant Directors
FEMA Office Directors
FEMA Regional Directors I – X