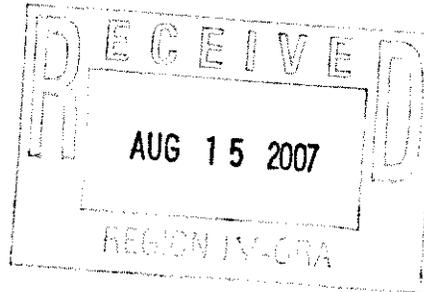




Homeland Security

9 August 2007

Brian Calvert, REP Planner
Benton County Emergency Management
651 Truman Ave.
Richland, WA 99352



Dear Mr. Calvert;

On Saturday, August 4, 2007 the qualifying drill for the Southridge High School Emergency Worker Assistance Center (EWAC) was held at 0800. This was done to replace the former EWAC at Kiona-Benton High school, which is closed for remodeling for the next two years.

All portions of the EWAC were successfully demonstrated, and a list of suggested changes was provided to you in a separate electronic mailing on August 8, 2007.

It is my opinion that the new EWAC is fully capable of providing the services required of an Emergency Worker Assistance Center, and is considered operational. I will look forward to the first graded drill of this facility which will take place in either 2008 or 2009.

Should you have any question, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Hammond
FEMA Region X, RAC Chair
130 228th St SW
Bothell, WA 98021-9796
425 482 3715

Cc: Ron Jorgensen, Energy Northwest
Steve Williams, Washington Emergency Management
Johanna Berkey, Washington Health
John Sheer, Franklin County
Bill Maier, USNRC, Region IV
Vanessa Quinn, FEMA REP HQ