

Minutes of NESC Committee on Policy Recommendations

Date: February 15, 2002

Conference call

1. Roll

Committee Members Present: Wayne Carlson, John Anderson, Margie Gunn, Jim Reagan, Phil Herrington, Juanita Cox

2. Action item: Review of strategies, objectives and actions established at strategic planning session and set priorities

The committee discussed the major strategies, objectives and actions and agreed to recommend the following to the NESC.

Strategies:

Priority #1: Building codes

Priority #2: Legislation

Priority #3: Develop outreach program

Other strategies:

Bring business and industry members into NESC activities

Response (needs assessment, fulfillment)

Objectives:

1.1 Promote legislation to adopt seismic provisions in the International Building Code

1.2 Promote the adoption of earthquake hazard guidelines by agencies

1.3 Retrofit essential (economic) structures

1.4 Retrofit public life-safety facilities (hospitals, fire and ambulance facilities, power generation, etc.)

2.1 Develop a set of model laws that would be passed after a major earthquake occurs in Nevada (recognizing that significant action may not take place until it happens)

3.1 Cultivate legislative champions

Actions:

1.1.1 Support passage of a law for setbacks from active faults (similar to Alquist-Priolo Act by the California Legislature, patterned after the NESC guidelines for fault investigations)

1.1.2 Promote the adoption of NESC's liquefaction guidelines by agencies (this also could be legislated)

- 1.1.3 Support passage of a law requiring the adoption of seismic provisions in the International Building Code by local governments and state agencies
- 1.1.4 Encourage training for building officials on the seismic provisions of the current adopted building code and seek State funding for this purpose
- 2.1 Survey other states for model laws for seismic safety (California, Utah, Oregon, Alaska and Washington were suggested)
- 3.1 Request NESC to send a letter to all Legislators and to local government officials explaining the role of NESC, providing earthquake hazard maps, soliciting their ideas and their interest in supporting the policy objectives of NESC

3. Acton item: Establish update process and timetable for Nevada Earthquake Risk Mitigation Plan

The committee recognized the need for input from various scientific and other disciplines for the update of the plan. The plan contains target dates from 2000, 2001 and 2002 and annual items that either have been accomplished or need to be addressed right away. Other dates in 2003-2010 should be reevaluated for appropriateness.

The committee recommended that a task force consisting of two members from each of the three NESC new committees be appointed to oversee the update process using a phased approach. Phase I would be to address the annual and 2000, 2001 and 2002 targets by the May NESC meeting. Phase II would address the target dates between 2003-2010 by the August meeting. The final phase would be incorporating all of the recommendations into a draft revised plan for submission to the NESC by the November meeting for adoption. Input from specialists would be sought throughout the review process.

4. Adjourn

The conference call adjourned at about 10:30 a.m.