

## Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Jim Baca Mayor City of Albuquerque P.O. Box 1293 Albuquerque, NM 87103 IN REPLY REFER TO: Case No.: 00-06-089P

Community: City of Albuquerque, New Mexico

Community No.: 350002

Panel Affected: 35001C0328 D

This Revision:

Effective Date of JAN 2 4 2000

102-I-C

## Dear Mayor Baca:

This responds to a request that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) revise the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Bernalillo County, New Mexico and Incorporated Areas (the effective FIRM for your community), in accordance with Part 65 of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations. In a letter dated October 14, 1999, Ms. Susan M. Calongne, P.E., City/County Floodplain Administrator, City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County, requested that FEMA revise the FIRM to show the effects of a retention pond project associated with the West Ridge Mobile Home Park development along an unnamed arroyo from approximately 1,000 feet upstream of Bluewater Road to just upstream of Volcano Road. The retention pond project consists of one large retention pond with a capacity of 13.99 acre-feet approximately 500 feet downstream of Bluewater Road and two temporary ponds just upstream of Avalon Road and just upstream of Volcano Road.

All data required to complete our review of this request were submitted with letters from Mr. Ronald R. Bohannan, P.E., President, Tierra West, LLC, and Ms. Calongne.

We have completed our review of the submitted data and the flood data shown on the effective FIRM. We have revised the FIRM to modify the floodplain boundary delineations of the flood having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (base flood) along the unnamed arroyo from approximately 1,000 feet upstream of Bluewater Road to just upstream of Volcano Road. As a result of the modifications, the width of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), the area that would be inundated by the base flood, for the unnamed arroyo increased in some areas and decreased in other areas. All increases in SFHA width are contained in the ponds. No insurable structures are affected by the increases in SFHA width. The modifications are shown on the enclosed annotated copy of FIRM Panel(s) 35001C0328 D. This Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) hereby revises the above-referenced panel(s) of the effective FIRM dated September 20, 1996.

The modifications are effective as of the date shown above. The map panel(s) as listed above and as modified by this letter will be used for all flood insurance policies and renewals issued for your community.

A review of the determination made by this LOMR and any requests to alter this determination should be made within 30 days. Any request to alter the determination must be based on scientific or technical data.

We will not physically revise and republish the FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community to reflect the modifications made by this LOMR at this time. When changes to the previously cited FIRM panel(s) and FIS report warrant physical revision and republication in the future, we will incorporate the modifications made by this LOMR at that time.

This LOMR is based on minimum floodplain management criteria established under the NFIP. Your community is responsible for approving all floodplain development, and for ensuring all necessary permits required by Federal or State law have been received. State, county, and community officials, based on knowledge of local conditions and in the interest of safety, may set higher standards for construction in the SFHA. If the State, county, or community has adopted more restrictive or comprehensive floodplain management criteria, these criteria take precedence over the minimum NFIP criteria.

The basis of this LOMR is, in whole or in part, a retention pond project. NFIP regulations, as cited in Paragraph 60.3(b)(7), require that communities ensure that the flood-carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of any watercourse is maintained. This provision is incorporated into your community's existing floodplain management regulations. Consequently, the ultimate responsibility for maintenance of the retention ponds rests with your community.

Because this LOMR will not be printed and distributed to primary users, such as local insurance agents and mortgage lenders, your community will serve as a repository for these new data. We encourage you to disseminate the information reflected by this LOMR throughout the community, so that interested persons, such as property owners, local insurance agents, and mortgage lenders, may benefit from the information. We also encourage you to prepare a related article for publication in your community's local newspaper. This article should describe the changes that have been made and the assistance that officials of your community will give to interested persons by providing these data and interpreting the NFIP maps.

This determination has been made pursuant to Section 206 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-234) and is in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (Title XIII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Public Law 90-448), 42 U.S.C. 4001-4128, and 44 CFR Part 65. Pursuant to Section 1361 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, communities participating in the NFIP are required to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations that meet or exceed minimum NFIP criteria. These criteria are the minimum and do not supersede any State or local requirements of a more stringent nature. This includes adoption of the effective FIRM to which the regulations apply and the modifications made by this LOMR. Our records show that your community has met this requirement.

A Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) has been designated to assist your community. The CCO will be the primary liaison between your community and FEMA. For information regarding your CCO, please contact:

Mr. Frank Pagano
Director, Mitigation Division
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VI
Federal Regional Center, Room 206
800 North Loop 288
Denton, Texas 76201-3698
(940) 898-5127

FEMA makes flood insurance available in participating communities; in addition, we encourage communities to develop their own loss reduction and prevention programs. Our Project Impact initiative, developed by FEMA Director James Lee Witt, seeks to focus the energy of businesses, citizens, and communities in the United States on the importance of reducing their susceptibility to the impact of all natural disasters, including floods, hurricanes, severe storms, earthquakes, and wildfires. Natural hazard mitigation is most effective when it is planned for and implemented at the local level, by the entities who are most knowledgeable of local conditions and whose economic stability and safety are at stake. For your information, we are enclosing a Project Impact Fact Sheet. For additional information on Project Impact, please visit our Web site at <a href="https://www.fema.gov">www.fema.gov</a>.

If you have any questions regarding floodplain management regulations for your community or the NFIP in general, please contact the CCO for your community at the telephone number cited above. If you have any technical questions regarding this LOMR, please contact Mr. Alan Johnson of our staff in Washington, DC, either by telephone at (202) 646-3403 or by facsimile at (202) 646-4596.

Sincerely,

Alan A. Johnson, P.E., Project Engineer

Hazards Study Branch Mitigation Directorate For: Matthew B. Miller, P.E., Chief

Hazards Study Branch Mitigation Directorate

Enclosure(s)

cc:

Ms. Susan M. Calongne, P.E. City/County Floodplain Administrator City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County

Mr. Ronald R. Bohannan, P.E. President Tierra West, LLC

