U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

FEMA

APR 01 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Office of the Governor
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you and your staff with Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 National Incident Management System (NIMS) implementation objectives. In accordance with Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5, the adoption of NIMS is a requirement to receive Federal preparedness assistance, through grants, contracts, and other activities. The NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity.

For 2009, States should continue to follow all guidance contained in the *5-Year NIMS Training Plan*, released in February 2008, to include implementation of *ICS-400: Advanced ICS* training. Implementing the NIMS objectives (reference Attachment 1) signifies that your State is working toward comprehensive NIMS implementation. States should address progress relating to NIMS Implementation within its NIMS Compliance Assistance Support Tool (NIMSCAST) to be eligible for Federal preparedness assistance in FY 2010. FEMA Regional NIMS Coordinators are available to assist with your State's self-assessment, which needs to be submitted no later than September 30, 2009.

States unable to meet implementation objectives may submit a Corrective Action Plan through the NIMSCAST no later than October 31, 2009. FEMA Regional NIMS Coordinators will work with you to review all Corrective Action Plans to ensure your State implements NIMS concepts and principles. For additional information concerning NIMS implementation, please contact your Regional NIMS Coordinator (reference Attachment 2). FEMA's National Preparedness Directorate welcomes your suggestions regarding the improvement of the NIMS implementation program. You may direct your comments to the National Preparedness Directorate at 500 C Street, SW, Washington, DC 20472 or via the NIMS Resource Center at www.fema.gov/nims.

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Thank you for your continued support in implementing NIMS. I look forward to continuing our collective efforts to secure the homeland and protect our citizens.

Sincerely,

for Nancy Ward
Administrator

ATTACHMENTS

cc: State Administrative Agency
State Emergency Management Director
State Homeland Security Advisor
Tribal Association Chairs
DHS Directorates and Offices
Homeland Security Advisory Council