July 8, 2013

Re: Local Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance
Adoption of Preliminary Work Maps

Dear Mayors and Local Floodplain Administrator:

This is in reference to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Work Maps for Cumberland, Middlesex and Salem Counties and the Flood Hazard Area Control Act Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:13, which incorporate the use of the Preliminary Work Maps in determining flood elevations. Under N.J.A.C. 7:13, flood elevations are now determined either using: (1) the higher of the Preliminary Work Maps, the effective BFE, or the design flood elevation shown on DEP flood maps; or (2) site-specific calculations that demonstrate a different flood elevation.

Should your community wish to amend your local ordinance to reflect the Preliminary Work Maps, then a generic Preliminary Work Map Model Ordinance language document can be found at the DEP flood control website: http://www.nj.gov/dep/floodcontrol/modelord.htm. Select “Model Best Avail D&E Ordinance”. The model ordinance contains only the minimum requirements accepted by FEMA and the State of New Jersey.

Please forward to our office within ten (10) days a designated contact person and their contact information. Also, please forward a draft copy of any proposed ordinance to my office prior to introduction, for our review. After adoption, please forward two (2) certified, signed and sealed copies of the ordinance to this office so I can report back to FEMA that your municipality has adopted a new ordinance.

Should you have any questions or need the model ordinance document in Microsoft Word® format, please, contact A. Chris Gould at (609) 292-2296 or alan.gould@dep.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,

John H. Moyle, P.E., Manager
Bureau of Dam Safety & Flood Control