




FEMA

W-10031

March 30, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: Write Your Own (WYO) Company Principal Coordinators and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Servicing Agent

FROM: 
Dennis L. Kuhns
Division Director
Risk Insurance

SUBJECT: Guidance for Lenders From Their Regulatory Bodies During the Lapse in NFIP Authority

The NFIP's authorization expired at midnight on March 28, 2010. Until reauthorized by Congress, the NFIP is unable to sell new policies, increase coverage on existing policies, or issue renewal policies. As a result of the lapse in authority, many lenders and homebuyers have been looking for guidance from the NFIP.

The authority of FEMA is limited to administering the NFIP. Implementation of the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements is the responsibility of the various Federal agencies that oversee lenders. Each Federal lending regulator (e.g., Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, etc.), Federal Agency Lender (FHA, SBA, VA, etc.) and Government Sponsored Enterprise (e.g., Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae) has the responsibility to issue its own regulations to implement the statutory requirements.

Several of these Agencies have already released helpful guidance. Attached to this bulletin is guidance from the Office of Thrift Supervision, Federal Reserve Board, and Freddie Mac. Although we anticipate similar direction from other lending regulators, we will continue to make available to you guidance received from other Agencies.

Attachments

cc: Vendors, IBHS, FIPNC, Government Technical Representative

Suggested Routing: All Departments

1. Freddie Mac: http://www.freddiemac.com/singlefamily/news/2010/0326_flood.html
2. Office of Thrift Supervision: <http://files.ots.treas.gov/25338.pdf>
3. Federal Reserve: <http://www.federalreserve.gov/boarddocs/caletters/2010/1003/caltr1003.htm>