



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

APR 27 2018

Dr. Laurie A. Johnson Ph.D., AICP  
Chair  
Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction  
National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program  
23 Portola Avenue  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Re: NEHRP-ACEHR 2018 Interim Report

Dear Dr. Johnson:

Thank you for your March 26, 2018, interim letter report regarding the effectiveness of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). I want to personally express my thanks to you and other members of the Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction (ACEHR) for your efforts in developing the recommendations contained in your letter. NIST has a unique and important responsibility not only to lead NEHRP, but to consider the Committee's recommendations in implementing the Program.

The key points raised in your letter – in particular, the role of the Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) in providing strategic leadership and the assessment of the Nation's progress in earthquake risk reduction - are significant and deserve thorough consideration. As you know, we are currently working to schedule a meeting of the NEHRP ICC.

We appreciate the time and hard work you and other members of the ACEHR contribute.

Sincerely,

Walter G. Copan, Ph.D.  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology &  
Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology

**NIST**