



U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
FEMA Region IX  
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200  
Oakland, CA. 94607-4052



**FEMA**

January 3, 2017

Luis Ochoa, Community Development Analyst  
City of Salinas  
65 West Alisal Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Housing Division  
Salinas, California 93901

Dear Mr. Ochoa:

This is in response to your request for comments regarding the Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds for the project known as Soledad Street Housing Community located at 21 Soledad Street (APN #s: 002-191-018, 019, 020, 021, 0223, 024, 028, 029), Salinas, California 93901.

Please review the current effective countywide Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the County of Monterey (Community Number 060195) and City of Salinas (Community Number 060202), Maps revised April 2, 2009. Please note that the City of Salinas, Monterey County, California is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The minimum, basic NFIP floodplain management building requirements are described in Vol. 44 Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR), Sections 59 through 65.

A summary of these NFIP floodplain management building requirements are as follows:

- All buildings constructed within a riverine floodplain, (i.e., Flood Zones A, AO, AH, AE, and A1 through A30 as delineated on the FIRM), must be elevated so that the lowest floor is at or above the Base Flood Elevation level in accordance with the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map.
- If the area of construction is located within a Regulatory Floodway as delineated on the FIRM, any **development** must not increase base flood elevation levels. **The term development means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings, other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, and storage of equipment or materials.** A hydrologic and hydraulic analysis must be performed *prior* to the start of development, and must demonstrate that the development would not cause any rise in base flood levels. No rise is permitted within regulatory floodways.

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- All buildings constructed within a coastal high hazard area, (any of the "V" Flood Zones as delineated on the FIRM), must be elevated on pilings and columns, so that the lowest horizontal structural member, (excluding the pilings and columns), is elevated to or above the base flood elevation level. In addition, the posts and pilings foundation and the structure attached thereto, is anchored to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement due to the effects of wind and water loads acting simultaneously on all building components.
- Upon completion of any development that changes existing Special Flood Hazard Areas, the NFIP directs all participating communities to submit the appropriate hydrologic and hydraulic data to FEMA for a FIRM revision. In accordance with 44 CFR, Section 65.3, as soon as practicable, but not later than six months after such data becomes available, a community shall notify FEMA of the changes by submitting technical data for a flood map revision. To obtain copies of FEMA's Flood Map Revision Application Packages, please refer to the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/forms.shtm>.

**Please Note:**

Many NFIP participating communities have adopted floodplain management building requirements which are more restrictive than the minimum federal standards described in 44 CFR. Please contact the local community's floodplain manager for more information on local floodplain management building requirements. The Salinas floodplain manager can be reached by calling Tom Moss, Senior Hydrologist, at (831) 755-4860. The Monterey County floodplain manager can be reached by calling David Chardavoyne, General Manager, Water Resources Agency, at (831) 755-4860.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Michael Hornick of the Mitigation staff at (510) 627-7260.

Sincerely,



Gregor Blackburn, CFM, Branch Chief  
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch

Luis Ochoa, Community Development Analyst  
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cc:

Tom Moss, Senior Hydrologist, City of Salinas

David Chardavoyne, General Manager, Water Resources Agency, Monterey County

Maggie Dutton, State of California, Department of Water Resources, South Central Region  
Office

Michael Hornick, NFIP Compliance Officer, DHS/FEMA Region IX

Alessandro Amaglio, Environmental Officer, DHS/FEMA Region IX





**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

John Peschong *District One Supervisor*

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 11 2017**

**BY:** *[Signature]*

January 11, 2017

David Hart, Chair  
Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
893 Blanco Circle  
Salinas, CA 93901

Subject: Reconstruction of Structures Destroyed by the Chimney Fire/825 ft. Floodage Easement

Dear Chair Hart,

I'm writing today to request your assistance in regards to approval to rebuild homes lost in the Chimney fire.

I recently had the opportunity to tour the Cal-Shasta area to view the devastation of the Chimney Fire. Forty-nine homes were destroyed as a result of the fire and 27 of those lost were in the Cal-Shasta area. Of the 27 homes lost, 7 were below the 825 foot elevation.

I understand that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) has drafted a policy to allow some reconstruction within the 825 ft. Floodage Easement. These impacted homeowners are working with their insurance companies and facing deadlines set by those companies to utilize their claim within 6 months. With time of the essence for these homeowners, it is imperative that a policy be in place as soon as possible so that plans for rebuilding can be submitted prior to the insurance company deadlines. I encourage the MCWRA to develop a policy which will be flexible and achievable for the property owners affected by the Chimney Fire within the 825 ft. Floodage Easement area and to expedite the adoption of a policy.

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate any assistance you can provide. Please feel free to contact me or my Legislative Assistant, Vicki Janssen anytime at 781-4491.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
Chairperson John Peschong  
Supervisor, District 1