GUIDANCE FOR "NO-RISE" CERTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS IN REGULATORY FLOODWAYS

Note: This guidance was adapted from that issued by FEMA Region IV in 2004.

Section 60.3 (d) (3) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations states that a community shall *"prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other developments within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base (100-year) flood discharge."* All communities in Ohio that participate in the NFIP have this provision contained in their Flood Damage Reduction Regulations.

Prior to issuing any building grading or development permits involving activities in a regulatory floodway, the community must obtain a certification stating the proposed development in the floodway will not impact the pre-project base flood elevations, floodway elevations, or floodway widths. The certification should be obtained from the permittee and signed and sealed by a registered Professional Engineer.

The engineering or "no-rise" certification must be supported by technical data. The supporting technical data should typically be based upon the standard step-backwater computer model utilized to develop the 100-year floodway shown on the community's effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) or Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM) and the results tabulated in the community's Flood Insurance Study (FIS).

Although communities are required to review and approve the "no-rise" submittals, they may request technical assistance and review from the ODNR, Division of Water.

The engineering "no-rise" certification and supporting technical data must stipulate NO IMPACT on the 100-year flood elevation, floodway elevations, or floodway widths at the new cross-sections and at all existing cross-sections anywhere in the model. Therefore, the revised computer model should be run for a sufficient distance (usually 1-mile, depending on hydraulic slope of the stream) upstream and downstream of the development site to ensure proper "no-rise" certification.

Attached is a sample "no-rise" certification form that can be completed by a registered Professional Engineer and supplied to the community along with the supporting technical data when applying for a floodplain development permit.

ENGINEERING "NO-RISE" CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that I am a duly qualified engineer licensed to practice in the State of Ohio. It is to further certify that the attached technical data supports the fact that proposed development:_____ in the floodway will
(Name of Development)

not increase the Base Flood Elevations (100-year flood), floodway elevations and the floodway widths on _____ at published sections in
(Name of Stream)

the Flood Insurance Study for _____, dated _____
(Name of Community)

and will not increase the Base Flood Elevations (100-year flood), floodway elevations, and floodway widths at unpublished cross-sections in the vicinity of the proposed development.

Date _____

Signature _____

Phone Number _____ ***EMAIL*** _____

Representing _____

Address _____

City_____ ***State*** _____ ***Zip Code*** _____

CERTIFYING SEAL OR STAMP