

National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program

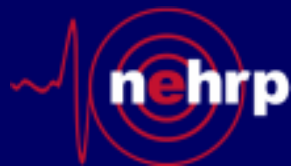
... a research and implementation partnership

Legislative Update

(Adapted from 2009/2010 Presentations to ACEHR)

Presentation to Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction
11 March 2011

Jack Hayes – NEHRP Director

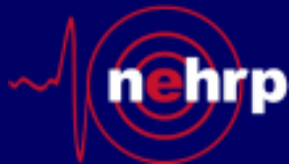


national earthquake hazards reduction program

NEHRP Reauthorization Status

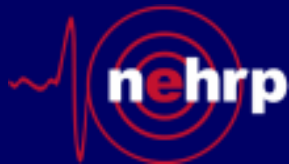
- “Old” authorization (PL 108-360) expired on 9/30/09 – **but this only impacted authorized funding levels, not operational requirements for agencies.**
- House of Representatives passed HR 3820* (3/3/10) and then referred bill to Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- Senate did not act on HR 3820 in 111th Congress.
- **Both houses of Congress will need to pass a reauthorization bill. The House-passed bill in the 111th Congress has lapsed.**
- Agencies plan to work with House Science, Space, & Technology Committee and Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to restart authorization process, but we currently have no details about approach planned by 112th Congress.
- Agencies are continuing their NEHRP activities, within budget constraints.
- HR 3820 endorsed many of the directions set forth in NEHRP Strategic Plan.

* See http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h3820rfs.txt.pdf



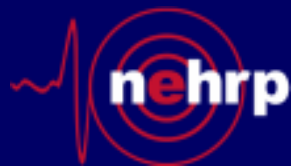
HR 3820 Recap: Global Changes

- Includes NEHRP as Title I (of 5 titles) of new *Natural Hazards Risk Reduction Act of 2009*
- Other titles:
 - II: Wind (NWIRP)
 - III: Interagency Coordinating Committee on Natural Hazards Risk Reduction
 - IV: National Construction Safety Team Act Amendments
 - V: Fire Research Program
- Also establishes NIST as lead agency for **NWIRP**
- Reduces authorization levels for FEMA, NIST
- Keeps NSF, USGS authorization levels essentially level
- Eliminates requirements for all agencies to support NSF report that led to NEES development (since NEES is well underway)



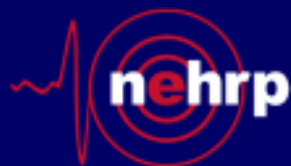
HR 3820 Recap: Agency Role Changes

- Lead Agency (NIST) Responsibilities:
 - Increased emphasis on social sciences
 - Increased emphasis on issuing recommended model code changes and reporting on their adoption (**note: historically a FEMA lead role**)
 - Lead for post-earthquake investigations (*PIMS not mentioned*)
- Agency Program Responsibilities:
 - FEMA, NIST largely unchanged
 - NSF – increased emphasis on multi- and inter-disciplinary research, and on social sciences
 - USGS – legacy NEIC library functions removed



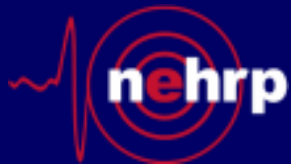
HR 3820 Recap: Committee Structure Changes

- Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC):
 - Becomes earthquake + wind, with NOAA membership added
 - Required meetings reduced from 3 to 2 per year
 - Authorizes core ICC members to add other agency heads that they deem appropriate
- Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction:
 - Function and composition largely unchanged
 - Parallel committee for wind hazards established
 - NIST Director has authority to establish other advisory committees



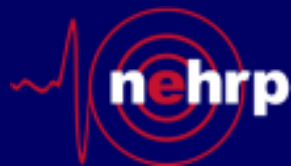
HR 3820 Recap: Reporting Processes

- Biennial report on program (instead of annual reports)
- Program budget report to be submitted in years when no annual report is required
- New strategic plan is required (appears to combine previous requirements for strategic and management plans in new strategic plan format)



HR 3820 Recap: SDR Report Requirement

- Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction (SDR) of the Committee on Environment & Natural Resources of the National Science & Technology Council (NSTC) would be required to report in two years on:
 - Current Federal R&D and technology transfer activities that address hazard mitigation for natural disasters, including earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, and floods;
 - Areas of research common to two or more hazards; and,
 - Opportunities to create synergies among research activities for different hazards.



HR 3820 Recap: Budget Snapshot

- Funds authorized for FY 2010 – FY 2014.

- 2009 Authorizations (last year of PL 108-360):

FEMA: \$23.64M

USGS: \$88.9M (with not less than \$36M for ANSS)

NIST: \$14.64M

NSF: \$42.77M + \$ 21.93M for NEES (Total: \$64.7M)

- 2010 Authorizations in HR 3820 (not enacted):

FEMA: \$10.238M

USGS: \$90.0M (with not less than \$36M for ANSS)

NIST: \$7.0M

NSF: \$64.125M

- 2011-2014 authorizations typically increase about 3% per year.

