

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 8, 2018

The Honorable William B. Long
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Administrator Long:

I write regarding recent developments surrounding the floodplain maps at Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri.

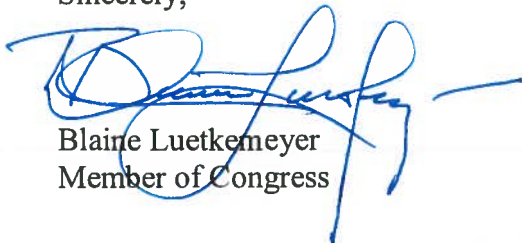
It has come to my attention there may be a cartographic error in maps produced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). That potential error has caused confusion among homeowners at the Lake of the Ozarks, many of whom have received letters informing them of the need to purchase a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy despite the fact they have never been included in the floodplain and many of the recently-issued FEMA maps for the area have lower base flood elevations than previous maps.

Homeowners who are, in fact, found to own property that is legitimately in the floodplain should continue to purchase flood coverage. However, any mapping error that would require the unnecessary purchase of NFIP policies should be corrected without delay. I strongly encourage you to review this situation and, if necessary, amend the FEMA floodplain map as expeditiously as possible.

Since coming to Congress, I have worked diligently with Missouri residents and FEMA on ensuring better floodplain maps for all Americans, and have advocated for sensible reform to the NFIP. It troubles me there continue to be issues with maps at the Lake of the Ozarks despite nearly a decade of conversation on the matter. It is my hope you review and resolve this situation without delay, and grant lake-area residents peace of mind in knowing the floodplain maps produced by your agency are accurate.

I thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress