



**FEMA**

W-07025

April 18, 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR: Write Your Own (WYO) Principal Coordinators  
and the NFIP Servicing Agent

FROM: WYO Clearinghouse

SUBJECT: City of Biloxi—Update on Increased Cost of Compliance and  
Advisory Base Flood Elevations

Last year, to assist adjusters in handling Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) claims in Louisiana and Mississippi coastal communities, FEMA disseminated information (WYO Clearinghouse Bulletin W-06035, May 30, 2006) about the status of adoption and enforcement of FEMA-developed Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs) by those communities.

A recent bulletin updated the list of Louisiana and Mississippi communities, including their adoption of the ABFEs, freeboard requirements, or a combination of the two (WYO Clearinghouse Bulletin W-07019, March 14, 2007). As the communities adopt and enforce the new ABFE(s) and any freeboard requirements, ICC benefits under the Standard Flood Insurance Policy become available to elevate buildings to the new ABFEs plus any adopted and enforced freeboard requirements.

FEMA has been informed that the City of Biloxi, Mississippi, which earlier had proposed to adopt and begin enforcing its ABFEs on June 1, 2007, now has effectively rescinded that proposed action. The City of Biloxi will continue to enforce the existing BFEs, which means that ICC benefits are available to elevate buildings only to the existing BFEs plus the currently enforced 4 feet freeboard requirement.

Attached are copies of the lists of communities that accompanied the March 14, 2007, bulletin. Biloxi's recent action with regard to ABFEs is highlighted in yellow, as are two other changes in the Mississippi list.

Attachments

cc: Vendors, IBHS, FIPNC, Government Technical Representative

Suggested Routing: Claims, Marketing, Training, Underwriting

## Louisiana ABFE Status Report

Parish	Community	ABFE Status	Adoption date
Calcasieu	Calcasieu Parish	Adopted	5-4-2006
	Lake Charles	Adopted	05-17-2006
	Sulphur	Adopted	05-08-2006
		Adopted	05-23-2006
	Westlake	Adopted	06-19-2006
Cameron	Cameron Parish	Adopted	4-9-2006
Iberia	Iberia Parish	Adopted	06-14-2006
	City of Jeanerette	Adopted	10-09-2006
	Village of Loreauville	IN PROCESS- Community has no SFHA. May consider adoption early 2007.	
Vinton	City of New Iberia	Adopted by reference to local ordinance.	
Jefferson	Jefferson Parish	Adopted – Effective 8-28-06.	7-19-2006
	City of Grand Isle	Adopted	7-11-2006
	City of Gretna	Adopted	12-11-06
	City of Harahan	Adopted	6-15-2006
	Town of Jean Lafitte	Adopted	9-13-2006
	City of Kenner	Adopted	8-17-2006
	City of Westwego	Adopted	10-09-2006
	Lafourche	Lafourche Parish	Rejected Adoption 9-12-06 by vote of 4-5.
	Golden Meadow	Adopted	8-21-2006
	Lockport	Adopted	9-26-2006
	Thibodaux	Adopted	10-03-2006
Orleans	Orleans Parish	Adopted	8-25-2006
Plaquemines	Plaquemines Parish	Adopted. Effective in 90 days.	1-25-2007
St. Bernard	St. Bernard Parish	IN PROCESS- Introduced alternative ordinance that does not meet FEMA standards on 8-28-06. No action taken by community.	
St. Charles	St. Charles Parish	Adopted	10-16-2006
St. John the Baptist	St. John the Baptist Parish	Rejected Adoption on 9-12-06.	
St. Mary	St. Mary Parish	Adopted	8-23-2006
	Town of Baldwin	Adopted	10-12-2006
	City of Franklin	Adopted	11-21-06
	City of Morgan City	Adopted	7-25-2006
St. Tammany	St. Tammany Parish	Adopted Emergency-Eff. 08-07-06	08-03-2006
	Town of Madisonville	Adopted one foot of freeboard which is > ABFE.	5-10-2006
	City of Mandeville	Adopted ABFE + 1 foot freeboard	10-12-2006
	City of Slidell	Adopted ABFE + 1 foot of freeboard.	9-12-2006
Tangipahoa	Tangipahoa Parish	Adopted	10-10-2006
	City of Ponchatoula	Adopted	10-16-2006

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<b>Parish</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>ABFE Status</b>	<b>Adoption date</b>
Terrebonne Parish	Terrebonne Parish	Adopted	6-28-2006
Vermilion	Vermilion Parish	Adopted	5-15-2006
		Adopted	4-17-2006
	Town of Delcambre	Adopted	7-10-2006
	Town of Erath	IN PROCESS – Next meeting 1-8-07. No action taken since last meeting.	
	Town of Gueydan	IN PROCESS- Presentation on 11-6-06. No action taken. Next meeting 1-2-07. Community waiting on Preliminary maps.	
	City of Kaplan	ABFE landward limits not located in town.	Adoption not necessary

Abbeville

**Number of Communities that have adopted ABFE**    36  
**Number of Communities waiting to adopted ABFE**    4  
**Number of Communities rejecting ABFE**    2

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**Mississippi Coastal Community Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Summary**

County	Community	Current Ordinance as of April 17, 2007	Proposed Action
Hancock	Bay St. Louis	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard	
	Hancock County	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard	
	Waveland	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard	
Harrison	Biloxi	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard	Council action on 3/20/07 effectively rescinded the adoption of ABFEs scheduled for 6/1/07.
	D'Iberville	ABFEs north of Interstate 10, and Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard (V zones only), and Existing FIRM + 3 feet freeboard (A zones only). Also adopted +14 feet elevation in a designated Community Flood Hazard Area.	
	Gulfport	ABFEs in their entirety + 0.5 foot freeboard and, in the SFHA where there are no ABFEs, the requirement is the FIRM + 1 foot freeboard	
	Harrison County	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard and ABFEs outside SFHA	
	Long Beach	Existing FIRM + 3 feet freeboard and ABFEs outside SFHA	
	Pass Christian	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard	
Jackson	Gautier	Existing FIRM + 5 feet freeboard and ABFEs outside SFHA	
	Jackson County	Existing FIRM + 4 feet freeboard and ABFEs outside SFHA	
	Moss Point	ABFEs in their entirety (adopted by resolution only)	
	Ocean Springs	ABFEs in their entirety + 1 foot of freeboard and, in the SFHA where there are no ABFEs, the requirement is the FIRM + 1 foot freeboard	
	Pascagoula	ABFEs in their entirety	