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Press Release

FEMA ANNOUNCES NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS FOR NET GUARD PILOT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has extended the closing deadline for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Citizen Corps Program, National Emergency Technology Guard (NET Guard) Pilot Program from July 2 at 11:59 pm 2008, to Friday, July 18, at 11:59 pm 2008. This extension is to provide a longer application period to promote submission of proposals from all interested qualified applicants. The Guidance and Application Kit has not changed.

All applicants that submitted within the original closing timeframe are permitted to update and re-submit their proposals by the new closing date. The guidance and application materials are available on the Internet at <u>www.grants.gov</u> and can be accessed by entering Opportunity Number -- **DHS-08-NPD-053-1912.**

On June 19, 2008, FEMA announced that \$320,000 was being made available in FY 2008 to pilot, test, and develop tools for a potential new Citizen Corps NET Guard Program. NET Guard teams will be comprised of volunteers with information technology (IT) and communications expertise to assist states and localities in responding to and recovering from incidents that cause significant damage or destruction to IT and communications infrastructure. Teams will be a local asset, managed at the local level, and deployed in response to a request from local or state authorities.

This competitive pilot program will award funds to four jurisdictions. To be eligible to apply, local government applicants must be located in one of the 2008 DHS Urban Area Security Initiatives jurisdictions and must have a Citizen Corps Council and programs supported by emergency management. Additional eligibility criteria are included in the solicitation announcement. Eligible government entities may apply through the Grants.gov portal, accessible on the Internet at <u>www.grants.gov</u>. Through the extended application period, applications will be received no later than 11:59 PM EST July 18, 2008.

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or manmade, including acts of terror.