



**STATE OF DELAWARE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**

Thursday, January 31, 2008

Mr. Cyril Smith
President
National States Geographic Information Council
2105 Laurel Bush Road, Suite 200
Bel Air, MD 21015

Mr. Smith, *CS*

I am pleased to inform you that the Delaware Geographic Data Committee Executive Council voted unanimously at their January 30, 2008, meeting to express their strong support for the Imagery for the Nation Initiative (IFTN) developed by the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC). I note that this was the Council's inaugural meeting and support for IFTN was one of the group's first acts. It was based on a strong recommendation from the full membership of the Delaware Geographic Data Committee (DGDC).

The state of Delaware has long demonstrated the value of statewide aerial imagery collected on a routine basis and shared among all levels of government, the public and academia. Imagery for the Nation would expand that approach to the whole of the United States and provide a firm basis for a National Spatial Data Infrastructure. It would also support and enhance Delaware's own spatial data framework.

The DGDC membership and Executive Council recognize the many benefits of a nationally integrated imagery program. As a small state, we are familiar with the inter-relationships between neighboring states. What happens in Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey can affect our citizens in Delaware. It is important to us that our colleagues in those states, and across the nation, have access to the same high quality imagery that we have come to rely on.

We applaud the efforts of the NSGIC leadership, and their partners in the federal government and other states, to bring about a national imagery program.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Mahaffie
Michael B. Mahaffie
State GIS Coordinator
Chair, DGDC Executive Council

