



*New Mexico Geospatial Advisory Committee*

Stuart R. Davis, President  
National States Geographic Information Council  
2105 Laurel Bush Rd., Suite 200  
Bel Air, MD 21015

2 July 2007

Dear President Davis:

The New Mexico Geospatial Advisory Council (NMGAC) has reviewed the National States Geographic Information (NSGIC) initiative, Imagery for the Nation (IFTN), and we believe the products from this initiative will meet many of the imagery needs of New Mexico. Over time, IFTN will provide a reliable and consistent imagery archive that will allow temporal examination of changing landscapes. Many rural local communities in the state will be able to use this imagery at a useful resolution for dealing with issues such as growth, wildfire and emergency response.

The NMGAC recognizes that more work is necessary to make this initiative a reality: specifically, addressing the disparity between the stated collection procedures for states west and east of the Mississippi River. As noted in a recent letter from the Western Governor's Association Geographic Information Council to the chairman of the Federal Geographic Data Committee<sup>1</sup>, it is our opinion that one foot imagery should be provided through a comprehensive system of coverage, and that designs of initiatives such as IFTN should come from state business plans and not a particular formula. However, these are merely details to be worked out, and should not take away from what is an excellent idea to improve the use of geospatial technology and information across the nation.

Therefore the NMGAC is pleased to endorse the Imagery for the Nation initiative.

Larry Brotman  
Chair, NMGAC

Leland J. S. Pierce  
NM Representative to NSGIC

<sup>1</sup> Dated March 20, 2007