

Grant Programs Directorate Information Bulletin No. 283, March 07, 2008

TO: All Prospective FY 2008 FRSGP Applicants

FROM: Tracey Trautman

Director, Grant Development and Administration

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Doyle Raines

General Manager- Transportation Sector Network Integration

Transportation Sector Network Management Transportation Security Administration

SUBJECT: Clarification to the FY 2008 FRSGP Guidance and Application Kit:

Removal of Section C under Appendix E (Vulnerability Assessment Methodologies) and select text from Question II.B. in the Investment

Justification Template

On February 1, 2008, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the availability of the fiscal year (FY) 2008 Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP). The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to redact select text from Appendix D and Appendix E of the FY 2008 FRSGP Guidance and Application Kit.

This information bulletin redacts the following text from Appendix E, Section C, page E-2 from the FY 2008 FRSGP Guidance and Application Kit:

"C. Vulnerability Assessment Methodologies

The rail carrier vulnerability assessment must be conducted using a tool or methods which meets the above criteria and must be accepted by DHS/TSA.

Some examples of the publicly available methodologies that meet these criteria include, but are not limited to, the DHS Transit Risk Assessment Module (TRAM) and the Intelligence Community's Analytical Risk Management (ARM) Process. Various commercially available tools meet these criteria."

Freight railroad carriers must still meet all other criteria included in Appendix E.

The "Response Instructions" for Question II.B. of the Investment Justification (IJ) from Appendix D, Section B, page D-4 of the FY 2008 FRSGP Guidance and Application Kit currently reads:

"For vulnerability assessment and security plan requests, please explain the status of your current vulnerability assessment and security plan with regard to the requirements detailed in Appendix E (Vulnerability Assessment) and Appendix F (Security Plan). If you deem your current vulnerability assessment and security plan do not meet the requirements contained herein, please describe those aspects of the plan that will be created and/or improved with grant funds.

- If using a vulnerability tool/methodology other than those identified in Section C of Appendix E, you must request provide the commercial name of the assessment tool/methodology in the response to facilitate evaluation of your proposed methodology;
- If it is not a commercial product, explain why you are not using one of the approved methodologies and how your chosen methodology will comply with the outlines in Appendices E and/or F; and,
- DHS may require the applicant to submit the entire vulnerability assessment tool/methodology requested above."

This information bulletin changes the response instructions to read:

"For vulnerability assessment and security plan requests, please explain the status of your current vulnerability assessment and security plan with regard to the requirements detailed in Appendix E (Vulnerability Assessment) and Appendix F (Security Plan). If you deem your current vulnerability assessment and security plan do not meet the requirements contained herein, please describe those aspects of the plan that will be created and/or improved with grant funds."

For other questions regarding the FY 2008 FRSGP, please contact the Grant Programs Directorate Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk at 1-800-368-6498, or via e-mail at askcsid@dhs.gov.