

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT Office of the Governor

RICK PERRY Governor

> Mailing Address: PO Box 4087 Austin, Texas 78773-0220

<u>Contact Numbers:</u> 512-424-2138 Duty Hours 512-424-2277 Non-Duty Hours 512-424-2444 Fax Physical Address: 5805 N. Lamar Blvd. Austin, Texas 78752 STEVEN McCRAW Director Office of Homeland Security

> JACK COLLEY Chief

April 28, 2006

Mr. James B. Hull Director Texas Forest Service 301 Tarrow Drive, Suite 364 College Station, Texas 77840-7896

Dear Mr. Hull:

In his recent Executive Order RP-57 relating to implementing recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Evacuation, Transportation, and Logistics, Governor Perry directed the Governor's Division of Emergency Management to create eight Regional Response Teams to support multi-jurisdictional operations during catastrophic events. This effort will fulfill a vision that both of our organizations have had to expanded state-level incident management resources.

It is only appropriate that the Texas Forest Service take the lead in developing the eight regional response teams. You are the state lead agency for incident management and your demonstrated record of excellence is a matter of record. The teams will be organized based on the eight Department of Public Safety regions within the State and be modeled after the highly successful Texas Task Force 1 effort. Priority for activation of the initial capability should be given to DPS Region 1, which is headquartered in Garland, and DPS Region 6, with headquarters in Waco. Please undertake direct coordination as necessary with the Chief of the Texas Highway Patrol, Chief Randy Elliston.

We request that you provide an implementation budget outlining estimated equipment, supplies, training, and staffing costs, both on a per team basis and for the full eight teams, as soon as practical. I have initially programmed an amount of \$500,000.00 to begin the effort in Region 1 and Region 6.

Should you have any questions about this project, please call me at 512/424-2443.

Sincerely,

Cc:

Chief Randy Elliston, THP

Assistant Chief Lamar Beckworth, THP