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Chair
Annette Watters (AL)
Vice-Chair
Pam Harris (MT) and
Pam Schenker (FL)
Secretary

NATIONAL STATE DATA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE

*Representing a Network of 1,800
SDC/BIDC Data Centers and Affiliates Nationwide*

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Julie Hoang (CA)
Barbara Ronningen (MN)
Robert Scardamalia (NY)
Jane Traynham (MD)
Dan Veroff (WI)

State Data Center Conference Call Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 4, 2007

The conference call meeting commenced at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. All of the steering committee members present. Sai Mullapudi represented the CICs. The CLMSO was represented by Frank Ambrose, Maria Olmedo, Renee Jefferson-Copeland, and Barbara LaFleur.

The agenda items for this conference call were:

- February Steering Committee meeting
- JPA- Joint Project Agreement for Rural Statistical Areas
- LUCA Update
- Other items

February Steering Committee Meeting

The group discussed the meeting structure and some possible topics for the February Steering Committee meeting at Census Headquarters. Possible topics are: program updates including communications, economic, JPA; ACS integration into other Federal /State statistics and cooperative programs; and updates on different aspects of the 2010 Census (Partnership Specialist Hiring Plan, LUCA, etc.). The SDC Steering Committee will meet in conjunction with the FSCPE (Federal State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates) and the CIC (Census Information Centers) steering committees, so the agenda for this meeting will need to be coordinated among the 3 groups.

JPA- Joint Project Agreement for Rural Statistical Areas

The Bureau received a good response for participation from the State Data Centers. At this time 7 states (AL, CO, MA, MT, NH, OK, MN) have sent in their agreements, but many others are on the way. The Bureau anticipates about 12 other states (OR, VT, AR, AZ, AR, ME, MI, ND, NY, KS, TX, WI) will be included in this project as their agreements are either in route or should be sent in shortly. The majority of the states have selected the 65,000 population threshold. ACS staff will be meeting this week to discuss a schedule and timeline for the pilot project and there should be a letter going to participants later this month.

LUCA Update

As of the conference call, the Bureau is in the process of mailing LUCA materials to local governments. The Bureau anticipates that all packets should be received by local governments by mid-January 2008. At this time the Bureau has not indicated that the April 4, 2008 return date will be extended, however the Bureau will reassess this once all materials have been mailed to entities that signed up prior to the November 19th 120-day review guarantee deadline. Each Regional Office has the latitude to contact local governments to let them know that materials have been delayed or to give them updates on the program; there is no coordinated effort from headquarters for this, as they are busy getting materials out to the local governments.

The Bureau is also anticipating changing the procedures for review of by local areas where there is a Tribal government present. Notification of this change should be sent soon.

Other Items

Renee asked that states please let CLMSO know of any upcoming meetings/conferences where Census staff may be asked to participate. Bureau staff are getting spread thin for presentations and the

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sooner CLMSO knows of meeting dates, the sooner they can get them on the calendar and secure speakers as needed.

Frank mentioned that the letters about the Bureau's LUCA review policy on tribal lands will be sent to the network, once the mailing to the tribal governments is complete.

It was brought to the attention of the Steering Committee that the SDC bylaws distributed and posted on the website were truncated. A complete version will be posted by CLMSO staff.

The meeting dates for the Annual meeting in D.C. will be October 15-17th. Other meeting date reminders were the 2010 Census kick-off meeting in New Orleans, April 14th - 16th with PAA and the Governor's Liaison meeting, June 13th.

Conference call ended 3:45pm Eastern Time