

Bi-State Regional Commission's Evacuation Plan to Receive National Award

The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) will be recognizing Bi-State Regional Commission's "Evacuation Plan for the Illinois Bi-State Region: A Preparedness Resource Guide for Evacuation Events" as part of the 2014 Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards. Awards will be presented at the National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference, December 3-5, 2014, where the plan will be part of a panel discussion on evacuation planning and resiliency. Bi-State Regional Commission staff represent Illinois regions on NADO's Regional Planning Organizations (RTPO) Council. The planning effort was funded through the Illinois Department of Transportation, rural planning funds program.

The plan itself is for a three-county area for rural Rock Island County, Henry and Mercer Counties, Illinois. The plan addresses general issues of evacuations and the sequence of information that might be needed in such an event. The plan explains the concept of operations in terms of evacuation and enforcement authority. It discusses types of communications, and provides transportation information, sheltering considerations and other resources. The document provides the initial framework in the event of an evacuation. While the National Incident Management System (NIMS) is the deployment protocol, the evacuation plan offers guiding information to resources and corridor that might be useful in the event of an evacuation. Due to the security nature of the plan, ILDOT did not want us to post the plan to our website. We could provide a plan Table of Contents for those that might be interested and answer questions individually.