Date: November 13, 2012

To: John Selkirk

From: Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group

Subject: Task Order, Implementation of Santa Fe and Taos Dispatch Centers Merger

The SWCG would like you to be the leader of a team to implement the decision to merge the Santa Fe and Taos Dispatch Centers into one Dispatch Center as identified in the Southwest Interagency Dispatch Optimization Pilot Project Executive Summary which was issued in September of 2012. You will be working directly for the SWCG to manage the merger of these two centers. Our expectations are that you will:

- Utilize the guidance outlined in the Executive Summary of September 2012 to guide implementation;
- Utilize the implementation checklists that have been developed to ensure that all aspects of fire and aviation dispatch are considered prior to the actual merger of the centers;
- Provide the SWCG with updated cost estimates as they are identified in planning so that the Coordinating Group can make timely funding decisions to support the merger;
- Apprise the SWCG as soon as possible of any impediments encountered that need to be addressed by the Coordinating Group;
- And provide updates of progress at scheduled SWCG meetings.

We will leave the size and makeup of the implementation team to your discretion. Our intent is that this planning be completed and actual center consolidation begin by the fall of 2013. The target for a complete and operational center will be prior to fire season 2014.

If you have any questions please contact Carl Gossard (Chair, SWCG) or Kelly Castillo (IDOPP Lead).

Carl Gossard
Chair, Southwest Coordinating Group