

# INTERAGENCY DISPATCH OPTIMIZATION PROJECT (IDOP)

## NORTHERN NEW MEXICO TEAM

### BRIEFING PAPER

**Date:**

February 3, 2014

**Topic:**

Feasibility of Locating a Fire Dispatch Center in the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) New Mexico State Office

**Background:**

When looking for potential locations for a combined dispatch center beyond the two existing dispatch facilities, it is prudent to analyze the potential of using existing state or federal cooperator's facilities. The BLM New Mexico State Office (NMSO) is known to have some vacant space, and the question has been asked as to whether NMSO could host a dispatch center.

**Detailed Analysis (Facts, findings, methodology, participants):**

John Selkirk, IDOP Team Leader discussed the possibility of NMSO hosting a dispatch center with Bob Casias, BLM's Deputy State Director for Support Services.

There is a small amount of vacant space in the NMSO. This currently consists of approximately 10 office cubicles for a total of approximately 800 square feet. This is only half of the space needed for a combined dispatch center. This space is scattered throughout the building. The configuration of the existing building is such that there is no opportunity to create a separate area (i.e. a "dispatch suite") in which dispatch operations could be conducted without disrupting other activities. The BLM State Director is developing plans for future utilization of the vacant space, so full utilization of any empty cubicles is anticipated in the future.

There is no opportunity to expand the “footprint” of the existing Lead Environmental Design (LEEDS) building. The size and configuration of the land the building is located on limits expansion, and an expansion, if it could be allowed, would require reducing available parking space. More importantly, there are significant infrastructure limitations to expansion. A primary concern is the limited sewer system the building is on, for which there is no practical engineering solution.

**Conclusions:**

Insufficient space exists within the existing NMSO building to accommodate a dispatch center, and the configuration of the building would not allow it to be altered internally to create a dispatch “suite”.

Several factors preclude expansion of the footprint of the building. Increasing the size of the building through new construction is not an option.

**Recommendations:**

The IDOP team recommends the BLM NMSO be removed from further consideration as a potential location for a combined dispatch center.

**Final Disposition:**