

§ 7703. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) The term “includes” and variants thereof should be read as if the phrase “but is not limited to” were also set forth.

(2) The term “Program” means the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program established under section 7704 of this title.

(3) The term “seismic” and variants thereof mean having to do with, or caused by earthquakes.

(4) The term “State” means each of the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(5) The term “United States” means, when used in a geographical sense, all of the States as defined in paragraph (4).

(6) The term “lifeline infrastructure” means public works and utilities, including transportation facilities and infrastructure, oil and gas pipelines, electrical power and communication facilities and infrastructure, and water supply and sewage treatment facilities.

(7) The term “Program agencies” means the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the United States Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(8) The term “Interagency Coordinating Committee” means the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction established under section 7704(a) of this title.

(9) The term “Advisory Committee” means the Advisory Committee established under section 7704(a)(5) of this title.

(10) The term “community resilience” means the ability of a community to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse seismic events.

(Pub. L. 95–124, § 4, Oct. 7, 1977, 91 Stat. 1099; Pub. L. 101–614, § 4, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3232; Pub. L. 106–503, title II, § 209, Nov. 13, 2000, 114 Stat. 2308; Pub. L. 108–360, title I, § 102, Oct. 25, 2004, 118 Stat. 1668; Pub. L. 115–307, § 2(c)(1)(A), (2), Dec. 11, 2018, 132 Stat. 4409.)

AMENDMENTS

2018—Par. (6). Pub. L. 115–307, § 2(c)(1)(A), substituted “lifeline infrastructure” for “lifelines”.

Par. (10). Pub. L. 115–307, § 2(c)(2), added par. (10).

2004—Pars. (8), (9). Pub. L. 108–360 added pars. (8) and (9).

2000—Par. (6). Pub. L. 106–503 inserted “and infrastructure” after “communication facilities”.

1990—Par. (2). Pub. L. 101–614, § 4(1), amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “The term ‘program’ means the earthquake hazards reduction program established under section 7704 of this title.”

Pars. (6), (7). Pub. L. 101–614, § 4(2), added pars. (6) and (7).

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of all functions, personnel, assets, components, authorities, grant programs, and liabilities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including

the functions of the Under Secretary for Federal Emergency Management relating thereto, to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, see section 315(a)(1) of Title 6, Domestic Security.

For transfer of functions, personnel, assets, and liabilities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including the functions of the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency relating thereto, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for treatment of related references, see former section 313(1) and sections 551(d), 552(d), and 557 of Title 6, Domestic Security, and the Department of Homeland Security Reorganization Plan of November 25, 2002, as modified, set out as a note under section 542 of Title 6.

§ 7704. National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program**(a) Establishment****(1) In general**

There is established the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program.

(2) Program activities

The activities of the Program shall be designed to—

(A) develop effective measures for earthquake hazards reduction;

(B) promote the adoption of earthquake hazards reduction measures by Federal, State, and local governments, national standards and model code organizations, architects and engineers, building owners, and others with a role in planning and constructing buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure through—

(i) grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and technical assistance;

(ii) development of standards, guidelines, and voluntary consensus codes for earthquake hazards reduction for buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure;

(iii) development and maintenance of a repository of information, including technical data, on seismic risk, community resilience, and hazards reduction; and

(iv) publishing a systematic set of maps of active faults and folds, liquefaction susceptibility, susceptibility for earthquake induced landslides, and other seismically induced hazards; and¹

(C) improve the understanding of earthquakes and their effects on communities, buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure, through interdisciplinary research that involves engineering, natural sciences, and social, economic, and decisions sciences; and

(D) continue the development of the Advanced National Seismic System, including earthquake early warning capabilities and the Global Seismographic Network.

(3) Interagency Coordinating Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction**(A) In general**

There is established an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction chaired by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (referred to in this subsection as the “Director”).

¹ So in original. The word “and” probably should not appear.