



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

January 4, 2012

Kent Yu, Ph.D, Chair
Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission
P.O. Box 14370
Salem, OR 97309

Dear Dr. Yu,

The Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC) has a challenging mission to educate the public about our seismic risks and inform diverse policy decisions. Through OSSPAC's dedicated efforts, though, the State of Oregon and its citizens have become increasingly aware that we live in an earthquake-prone region.

This month will mark the 312th anniversary of the last major earthquake and resulting tsunami from the Cascadia Subduction Zone that sits off Oregon's coast. Throughout this year, OSSPAC will be drafting an Oregon Resilience Plan to help us better prepare for the next major earthquake and tsunami.

A focused resiliency effort can better prepare us for catastrophic disasters as well as help us weather our more common emergencies like storms, floods and fires. OSSPAC has had wide participation from state agencies, local governments, businesses and non-profits and I encourage their continued engagement on this critical effort.

Thank you for all of OSSPAC's efforts to date and for continuing to be a powerful voice for a more prepared and resilient Oregon.

Sincerely,

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

JAK/CS/ap