

Warrick County EMA
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February 9, 2010

To: The Honorable Senator Richard G. Lugar
Congress of the United States

From: Dallas Scott
Warrick County Emergency Management Agency Director

Subject: Emergency equipment request

On behalf of the Warrick County Emergency Management Agency, we are seeking your support of our request of funding from the Appropriations Committee. This has been an on going project over the past few years. Warrick County Commissioners and County Council have invested a considerable amount of tax dollars towards this communications project (over 1 million dollars).

Contracts have been signed with Motorola Communications to install two (2) tower sites in order to get adequate radio coverage. This system will allow Warrick County to become a part of the Indiana Hoosier Safe-T system. This will provide our county emergency services a safer work environment as well as state and national interoperable communications as set out in the National Response Plan. Interoperable Communications allows emergency management/response personnel and their affiliated organizations to communicate within and across agencies and jurisdictions via voice, data, in real time, when needed. It is essential that these communications systems be capable of interoperability, as successful emergency management and incident response operations require the continuous flow of critical information among jurisdictions, disciplines, organizations, and agencies.

As you know, when Warrick County was struck by a tornado in 2005 we lost all radio communications. Our current radio system operates off of one (1) tower. If for any reason that tower site goes off line, we have NO effective communications and that puts our first responders and citizens at great risk.

In order to complete this project we are requesting \$1,247,949.66. Attached you will find a spreadsheet representing each piece of equipment needed and the receiving agencies.

Please help us by encouraging the Appropriations Committee to grant the funding for the equipment that is so important for the protection of the citizens of Warrick County.

Respectfully submitted,

Dallas F. Scott