



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER
3833 SOUTH DEVELOPMENT AVENUE
BOISE, IDAHO 83705-5354

July 25, 2007

To: All Regional Directors, All Regions
Attention: Regional Fire Management Officers

From: Director, Branch of Wildland Fire Management

Subject: Use of the Engine Operator (ENOP) Position

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lyle Carlin".

Bureau and Tribal Fire Management Officers have adopted and placed the position of ENOP on firefighter red cards over the past several years. This memorandum serves to notify the field that this position is being deactivated in IQCS and is no longer a valid Bureau/Tribal qualification.

This position is being eliminated because it has been improperly applied in the field. This misapplication might result in unsafe conditions during incident operations. Prior to August 1, 2005, employees who had ENOP on their red card were not required to meet any fitness standard. On this date, arduous fitness was made a requirement. However, any employee who had obtained the qualification prior to that date would appear as qualified since they qualified under the previous rule.

Regardless of the fitness requirement, the original intent of ENOP was not to use the position as an incident qualification. It is not. ENOP is simply a description of an engine person's regular job duties and was never intended to be used as a fireline position.

Fire Management Officers who have employees with a red card that shows "ENOP" are instructed to print a new red card which does not contain this qualification.

If there are any questions, please contact Craig Cook, National Certifying Official, at 208-387-5965.