



Technical Advisory Committee Report November 7, 2007

The Technical Advisory Committee recommends the adoption of the US National Grid as defined by the Federal Geographic Data Committee standard FGDC-STD-011-2001 as an official presentation layer on the NC OneMap. A presentation format is just a visual representation of the data requested for view.

The USNG is an FGDC presentation format standard. This coordinate reference system was adopted to provide a nationally and globally consistent language of location optimized for local applications and larger-scale mapping. Such maps include topographic, street, highway, and other general-purpose maps generally larger than 1:1,000,000-scale. The USNG is intended for everyday applications by the general public, public safety providers and for improved business practices in support of the general economy. Commercial vendors and publishers of street and highway maps in North Carolina are encouraged to adopt the USNG. The USNG will be available as a layer on the NC OneMap.

The USNG enables a universal map index system that works across the state and with all properly gridded maps. As such a feature or street address USNG value can be added to business cards, stationery, phone directory listings and similar information resources to aid in locating a business or person's address on a map. Furthermore these USNG values can be directly used in low cost consumer Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers to guide a person to the precise point of interest or to locate it on a web-mapping portal. The availability of feature locations as USNG values is particularly valuable during times of disaster such as major hurricanes where the street signs have been destroyed. The USNG improves public safety by providing a uniform means to describe an incident location – particularly where street addresses may not be specific enough – such as a large campus or industrial complex. This also benefits mutual assistance operations.

Recommendation for Adoption of the Federal Geographic Data Committee US National Grid Standard: FGDC-STD-011-2001

The North Carolina Geographic Information Coordination Council (NCGICC) hereby adopts the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) US National Grid (USNG) standard (FGDC-STD-011-2001) for applications as described in that standard. As adopted by the NCGICC *the USNG standard does not:*

- Replace the North Carolina State Plane Coordinate System (SPCS) for purposes that require SPCS use under state law or for surveying operations, cadastral applications, property descriptions, or similar traditional applications.
- Require changes to the digital geospatial data storage format in a Geographic Information System. For example, data can continue to be stored in latitude and longitude degrees-decimal-degrees or SPCS formats.
- Replace the use of latitude and longitude on aeronautical and nautical charts.
- Replace street addresses, but rather supplements them as a universal map index to rapidly identify the location of a street, street address, or feature.

Procurement language for geospatial information services, systems, and products shall include a USNG functionality requirement as appropriate in the spirit of this policy. Users are encouraged to visit the FGDC's web site (www.fgdc.gov/usng) to learn more

about the USNG. Geospatial professionals should proactively educate their constituents on how to use and read the grid, ensure mapping products properly depict the grid, add it to their business cards and stationery letterhead, include it in community web mapping sites, and street and feature indexes.