Exhibit A Executive Summary

In Phase 2, the State of Alaska is submitting an additional target area for threshold qualification in this application—the Kawerak Tribal Area. This area is to be submitted for qualification with new FEMA project worksheet information resulting from one of the qualified disasters, DR-4050. Further details are provided in Exhibit B and D. The two original target areas are the Tanana Chief Conference (TCC) and the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) tribal areas.

In Phase 2 the State Interagency Working Group narrowed down a list of 40 impacted villages in the three eligible target areas through a combined objective and subjective analysis of potential project location assessments in the NDRC criteria of MID; URN-tieback; community engagement; regional impacts; model, scalable and replicable; long term commitment/planning capacity; and leverage. Given the complexity of the NDRC application process, the SIWG felt its capacity was to attempt to submit 4 projects in the communities of Galena, Newtok, Emmonak and Teller.

The SIWG has summited an overall Statewide resilience planning activity related to statewide resilience planning and actions for Alaska Villages requiring relocation and those choosing to “defend in place”; local and regional planning activities which include new hazard assessment data, community, and land development; community infrastructure projects—a significant deficiency in rural Alaska communities—some of which still rely on haul water systems (no running potable water); honey buckets (no piped sewer system) and sewage lagoons; and deficient landfills; ongoing debris removal activities; Tribal-cultural centers; community gardens and food pantries to address overall health and economic benefits of locally grown and traditional foods for vulnerable populations; dust abatement activities related to serious dust
issues from rural gravel roads; green energy and efficient and redundant power activities to enhance community and regional resilience during harsh Alaskan seasons; workforce development and vocational training programs; and early education and childcare facilities and program start-ups. The activities all address the distressed conditions of Alaska rural communities living in mainly subsistence-based economies attempting to continue their traditional cultures and practices in their native lands. While the benefits of these lands and practices include lack of crowding, access to natural food sources, and traditional hunting and gathering practices. These also come with resiliency challenges related to a settling of a once nomadic culture. These challenges include the need to stay-in place, with ties to schools and infrastructure providing services. The need to remain close to traditional hunting and gather sources leave native rural communities exposed to the effects of climate change, flooding, and severe storms. There are cyclic impacts to community infrastructure, homes, debris and food security issues, and services, with especially significant impacts to vulnerable populations.

The State of Alaska has been and is committed to long-term community and regional resilience statewide. Its ongoing interagency collaborations and the daily conduct of business by all the State Departments and the Governor’s office support this commitment, as detailed further in this application are evidence of this. The State with its partners and stakeholders has the commitment and capacity to successfully execute any funding that HUD should award to the State for its submitted projects.