

# Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Page</i>
<b>Introduction</b> . . . . .	1
I. Summary: Fourteen Key Issues . . . . .	3
H. The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, Public Law 95-124 . . . . .	7
Introduction. . . . .	7
Contents of the Act. . . . .	<i>i</i>
The Implementation Plan. . . . .	9
III. Criteria for Evaluating the Implementation Plan. . . . .	11
The Purpose of This Paper . . . . .	11
What is a Public Policy Issue? . . . . .	11
The Lifecycle of an Earthquake Hazard. . . . .	11
Images of the Future . . . . .	12
IV. Criteria for the Evaluation . . . . .	17
Issue 1: Federal vs. State and Local Responsibilities . . . . .	17
Issue 2: Earthquakes vs. An All Natural Hazards Strategy . . . . .	18
Issue 3: Narrowing Choices vs. Widening Choices: The Aquisition of Information . . . . .	19
Quality of Existing Information. . . . .	19
Adequacy occurent Information. . . . .	19
Providing for Future Information. . . . .	23
Issue 4: Narrowing Choices vs. Widening Choices: The Role of Dissemination and Utilization of Knowledge. . . . .	23
Issue 5: Engineering Design vs. Socioeconomic Strategies. . . . .	24
Issue 6: Life Safety vs. Property Value-Oriented Programs: Balancing Needs . . . . .	25
Issue 7: Life Safety vs. Property Value-Oriented Programs: Hazardous Buildings . . . . .	25
Issue 8: Federal Regulations Overriding Conflicting State Laws vs. State-by- State Resolution: Building Codes . . . . .	26
Issue 9: Prediction vs. Present Capabilities. . . . .	26
Issue 10: The Picture of the Present vs. The Images of the Future: Choosing Alternatives . . . . .	31
Issue 11: The Picture of the Present vs. The Images of the Future: Resolving mbiguities . . . . .	32
Issue 12: The "Normal" Disaster vs. The Catastrophe . . . . .	34
Issue 13: Interagency Conflicts: New vs. Existing Agencies. . . . .	34
Issue 14: Urgency of Need vs. Limited Capabilities. . . . .	35
Appendix The <b>National</b> Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program . . . . .	37

## LIST OF TABLES

<i>Table No.</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Some Trends Related to Earthquakes . . . . .	13
2. Trends in Relation to Natural Hazards in the United States. . . . .	13
3. Instruments of Government. . . . .	20
4. Earthquake-Risk Mitigation Measures . . . . .	21
5. Davis Besse(Ohio). . . . .	32
6. Diablo Canvon (California) . . . . .	33

## LIST OF FIGURES

<i>Figure No.</i>		<i>Page</i>
1.	Map of Worldwide Seismic Activity Showing Location and Movement of Major Plates. . . . .	8
2.	Lifecycle of a Hazard . . . . .	12
3.	Measuring Earthquakes . . . . .	27
4.	Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale of 1931 . . . . .	28
5.	The Developing Technology of Earthquake Prediction . . . . .	29
6.	Concept of Earthquake Prediction Instrumentation. . . . .	30