July 14, 2014

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Through: Regional Administrator Beth Freeman
FEMA Region VII
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64114

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and 
Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), as implemented by 44 CFR § 
206.36, I request that you declare a major disaster for the State of Iowa as a result of severe 
weather that produced damaging winds, tornados, heavy rains, hail, and thunderstorms resulting 
in severe damages and flooding beginning on June 14, 2014 through June 23, 2014, causing 
significant damages to public infrastructure and private property.

GENERAL FACTS OF THIS DISASTER.

On June 13, The National Weather Service Storm Prediction Center (SPC) had forecasted 
that a cold front moving into eastern Nebraska and western Iowa would produce severe 
thunderstorms with widespread damaging winds, tornados, and widespread large hail. As the 
cold front moved into western Iowa on June 14, it brought severe storms into Iowa. These 
storms brought high winds and .38 inches of precipitation to northwest Iowa. Storm Spotters, 
law enforcement, and emergency personnel reported high winds, with some gusts in excess of 70 
mph, hail exceeding three inches in diameter in some areas, heavy rains, and one tornado on June 
14. This was just the start of a nine-day period of repeated damaging storms.

Over the period of June 14 through June 23, northwestern Iowa received over eight 
inches of precipitation. On June 15, it brought over two inches of precipitation to northwest 
Iowa, leading to extensive flooding, especially in the Rock River basin. It also brought nearly 
three quarters of an inch of precipitation to the north central part of the state, and even more to 
the western portion of Iowa. Torrential rains from this storm system also led to the failure of a 
dam at Blue Mounds State Park near Luverne, Rock County, Minnesota, which contributed to 
downstream flooding of the Rock River.
Severe storms continued in northern Iowa on June 16, producing multiple tornadoes, including one EF-0 tornado that was videotaped by a trained storm spotter in Humboldt County. Further surveys by the National Weather Service concluded that two additional EF-1 tornadoes occurred in Iowa on June 16 in rural Butler County. The first tornado cut a path of just over three miles long and 250 yards wide, the second tornado occurred just minutes after the first. Over 20 structures were reported to be a total loss due to damages sustained by these two tornadoes. The Iowa State Climatologist noted that severe storms were reported in 56 of Iowa’s 99 counties on June 16.

As a stationary front continued to strengthen over northern Iowa on June 17, additional severe storms impacted Iowa. National Weather Service damage surveys concluded that a downburst with peak wind speeds of 105 mph occurred in the early morning hours of June 17 in the Cedar County town of Durant. Storm spotters also reported a tornado near the city of George, Lyon County, on June 17. The Rock River at Rock Rapids, Lyon County, Iowa crested on June 17, reaching 26.98 feet, five feet higher than its previous record crest, severely impacting the city of Rock Rapids. The Rock River also broke its previous record in the city of Rock Valley, Sioux County, cresting at 22.59 feet, just over two feet higher than the previous record, and over six feet above flood stage. Just downstream of where the Rock River meets the Big Sioux River is the Sioux County city of Hawarden. Here, the Big Sioux River crested at 27.92 feet, over three feet above the previous record. Near the Plymouth County city of Akron, the Big Sioux River reached a new record of 25.8 feet, over two feet over its previous record, overtopping levees and flooding Iowa Highway 3 near Westfield in Plymouth County.

The stationary front that had caused the storms of June 17 continued to produce severe weather on June 18, this time with wind gusts in excess of 50 mph, as reported by trained storm spotters in northwest Iowa. Unlike the previous days, the majority of the precipitation fell in the northeastern portion of Iowa, with over an inch in the far northeastern corner of the state.

The stationary front persisted into June 19, with the Iowa Environmental Mesonet showing the entire state of Iowa as having received precipitation. The most intense precipitation was in the eastern half of Iowa, with the Iowa, Cedar, Upper Iowa, and Turkey River basins all receiving over one inch of precipitation.

With daily precipitation since June 14, the Big Sioux River in northwest Iowa reached flood stage on June 18 in Sioux City, Woodbury County. The swollen Big Sioux River breached a levee in rural Plymouth County on June 19. After flooding farmland, the floodwaters from the Big Sioux River finally stopped at an emergency sandbag structure that was built to protect the city of Akron. The river ultimately crested over five feet above flood stage on June 20. The Omaha District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stated that the outflow from the Big Sioux River reached 100,000 cubic feet per second, a new record.

June 20 brought another day of intense precipitation to Iowa, with over an inch of precipitation throughout many parts of Iowa. This storm again brought large hail, damaging winds, and intense precipitation to several parts Iowa.

The same continued on June 21 with the outflow boundary of the high pressure system remaining over northwest Iowa. However, this time over an inch of precipitation was received in
the southwestern portion of Iowa. As floodwaters from the flooded Big Sioux River flowed into the Missouri River, significant rises in Missouri River levels were experienced. Downstream, where the Little Sioux River flows into the Missouri River, flooding started occurring on June 21. This flooding continued on the Missouri River from Monona County, Iowa south until leaving the state. Flooding on Missouri River in Iowa crested at 21.85 feet on June 23 in Fremont County. Other rivers also reached flood stages, including the Little Sioux River near the Woodbury County city of Correctionville, which reached major flood stage of 21.43 feet. The West Fork Ditch near the Woodbury County city of Hornick reached 25 feet, just inches short of its record. The West Fork of the Des Moines River reached minor flood stage near the city of Emmetsburg in Emmet County.

As the stationary front started to move toward the southeast, further precipitation ensued throughout Iowa on June 22. Severe thunderstorm warnings were issued by the National Weather Service for portions of southern Iowa that had been severely impacted by severe storms on June 3 through June 4, and were included in my last request for Federal Emergency Assistance, dated July 7. These areas received heavy precipitation, hampering recovery efforts.

June 23 brought additional severe thunderstorms to Iowa. Storms again produced intense precipitation in portions of Iowa, with southeastern Iowa receiving 1.39 inches of precipitation. Numerous flood gauges in eastern Iowa now reached major flood stage, with the Mississippi River now reaching over 112% of flood stage in the city of Burlington, Des Moines County.

The Iowa State Climatologist reported that Iowa received an average of 3.4 inches of precipitation between June 14 and June 23. Northwestern Iowa had received over eight inches of precipitation during this period. By June 23, the Little Sioux, Des Moines, and Mississippi Rivers were still at flood stage, and the majority of Iowa’s rivers were above 80% of flood stage. Continued precipitation would only intensify flooding conditions throughout Iowa.

In response to the situation, I have issued a total of four State of Iowa Proclamations of Disaster Emergency. The first was issued on June 17, 2014, directing the execution of the Iowa Emergency Response Plan in Cedar, Lyon, Plymouth, Pocahontas, and Sioux counties. Succeeding proclamations have resulted in a total of 29 counties to be in a State of Disaster Emergency. These actions were taken pursuant to Iowa Code § 29C.6 and Section 401 of the Stafford Act.

I determined that the severity of the damage in 26 counties is so great that Joint Federal, State, and local Public Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessments were required. On June 18, 2014, the State of Iowa first requested a Joint Federal, State, and local Public Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessment for 14 of the most severely impacted counties. Then on June 24, it was requested that assessments be conducted in an additional 11 counties. These assessments commenced on June 27, and were concluded on July 2.

As a result of these joint assessments, I have determined that the severity of damages in 26 counties is such that Federal Assistance is needed. Additionally, damages to homes and businesses as a result of this event were of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a declaration of disaster through the Small Business Administration for Lyon and Sioux counties.
All but one of the counties in this request have been affected by damages severe enough to be included in at least one presidency-declared disaster event in the past three years. Seven counties have been included in one other disaster. Five counties have been included in two declarations each, five have been included in three declarations, four have been included in four declarations, and four have been included in five separate presidency-declared disasters. During the same period, the State has had 12 separate presidential-disasters declared.

Since 2013, 18 of the counties included in this request have been included in at least one presidency-declared disaster, with four counties included in two each. During the same period, 19 of the counties were included in at least one Secretary of Agriculture Small Business Administration disaster declarations, with six counties included in two declarations and three counties included in three declarations each.

DEATHS, INJURIES, ADDITIONAL DAMAGES.

The following is a continuation of the additional damages, impacts, and accessibility problems in the affected area and population described in sections 8 and 10 of the Request for Presidential Disaster (FEMA Form 010-0-13). Although some of these damages may be covered by insurance, they contribute to the overall magnitude of the disaster.

Fatalities, Injuries, and Evacuations.

- There were five fatalities related to this event, two of which are directly attributable to the storms and subsequent flooding.
  - A man fell into the swollen Des Moines River in the city of Des Moines, Polk County, on Saturday, June 21. Rescue crews pulled him from the water, but he later died at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.
  - On June 25, a two-year old child was found by the Iowa State Patrol in Dallas County after it was reported that the child had wandered away from home. The child was found in a ditch that is normally dry, but had filled with approximately two feet of water from recent rains. The child was unresponsive, CPR was performed at the scene, and the child was flown by air ambulance to Blank Children’s Hospital in Des Moines, Polk County, where the child was pronounced dead.
- The Iowa Urban Search and Rescue Team, Sioux City Division (Iowa Task Force 1) was activated by Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management Department to provide water rescue support in Sioux County.
- Westview Homes, a residential care facility for the disabled, located in the city of Rock Valley, Sioux County, evacuated 12 residents to local church on June 17.
- A levee broke along the Rock River on June 15 in the City of Rock Rapids, Lyon County, forcing an emergency evacuation of 33 residents of the Lyon Manor Care Facility.
- Redwood Court, a group home for the handicapped, in Rock Valley, Sioux County, evacuated nine residents during the night of June 16 and 17 to a local church when the care facility flooded.
• Ten homes in the city of Alvord, Lyon County, were evacuated on June 17 as floodwaters from the Rock River came against the railroad tracks in town. Approximately 30 people evacuated to friends and family.

• The American Red Cross opened four shelters in this affected area:
  o Central Lyon High School in the city Rock Rapids, Lyon County. This shelter had 31 occupants the night of June 17 into June 18. The shelter was closed June 20.
  o Rock Valley Faith Reformed Church in the city of Rock Valley, Sioux County. This shelter had 73 occupants the night of June 17 into June 18. The shelter was closed June 19.
  o Cherokee Community Center in the city of Cherokee, Cherokee County. This shelter had six occupants the night of June 17 into June 18. The shelter was closed June 18.
  o Sioux City West Middle School, Woodbury County, opened on June 19, however, none utilized it.

• A levee breach on June 18 along the Big Sioux River in Plymouth County, leading to the evacuation of several residences by boat along Iowa Highway 12.

• The Iowa Department of Natural Resources evacuated seven campsites at Yellow River State Park on June 18, moving these campers to temporary sites on higher ground.

• Campgrounds in the city of Elkader, Clayton County, along the Turkey River were evacuated on June 19 due to rising waters.

• The state of Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management Department is facilitating the coordination of assistance being delivered through multiple programs across agencies. 60 homes in the Lyon County seat of Rock Rapids, and the Sioux County town of Rock Valley were categorized as either major or destroyed. This area of northwestern Iowa was already suffering from a shortage of housing stock, which was exacerbated by the flooding experienced in this event. Many families have been forced to seek shelter in hotels or with family members, but many others are having to stay in temporary shelters.
  o Northwestern College in the Sioux County town of Orange City is housing families in student dormitories until classes resume in August. Once this occurs, the families will be forced to find other accommodations.
  o Many migrant families to the area have been forced to live in travel trailers at campgrounds, many of which are located in the floodplain. Given the ample severe weather Iowa experiences, this is a potentially dangerous and ultimately unsustainable alternative to permanent housing.
Critical Facilities and Infrastructure.

- The Sanford Rock Rapids Medical Center in the city of Rock Rapids, Lyon County reduced operations, including the cancelation of surgeries, and closed all other departments except those needed for emergencies on June 17 after a loss of potable water. The facility returned to full operations on June 20.
- Lyon County Public Health reported the evacuation of one of the only two pharmacies in Lyon County on June 17. The Lewis Family Drug in Rock Rapids reopened the following day.
- A fire truck for the City of Arlington, Fayette County, was blown off the road while performing storm-spotting operations on June 17.
- Kossuth County Emergency Management reported damages to the City Hall and public Library in the city of Bancroft, Kossuth County, as a result of storms on June 17.
- The City of Okoboji, Dickinson County, suffered damages to a police car when a tree fell on it on June 17.
- The Lyon County Engineer reported on June 17 that the main shop for the County Secondary Roads department was under approximately two feet of water, and is not operational.
- The Iowa Department of Natural Resources reported on June 17 that they received notifications from 28 municipal and 19 livestock feedlot wastewater treatment facilities that these facilities were bypassing waste due to the inundation of their systems. By June 18, over 50 municipal wastewater treatment plants reported that they were bypassing waste. On June 19, 46 municipal wastewater facilities and 19 livestock feed operations reported bypassing wastewater into streams and rivers.
  - The City of George, Lyon County, started emergency pumping from their lift station starting on June 16, and continuing to June 19.
  - The City of Fort Dodge, Webster County, started bypassing an estimated 250,000 gallons of waste water per day starting on June 17 after the City had to remove pump motors to prevent them from being inundated by floodwaters.
  - The City of Marathon, Buena Vista County, took emergency protective measures to prevent damages to its sewer system.
  - The City of Sioux Rapids, Buena Vista County, took emergency protective measures to prevent damages to the city’s wastewater treatment facilities and lift station.
  - The City of Dows, Wright County, sandbagged its lower level lift station to prevent inundation of floodwaters.
  - The City of Dows, Wright County, started sandbagging their lift station as waters from the Iowa River started to threaten the facility.
  - The lift station in the city of Geneva, Franklin County, went offline after being inundated with floodwaters from a branch of the Cedar River.
• Multiple water treatment plants reported reduced capacity due to loss of power, water mains that cross streams being washed out, and flood waters threatening wells.
  o The water treatment facility in the city of Rock Rapids, Lyon County, was shut down as flood waters from the Rock River threatened the facility. This also caused a boil order to be issued for the Lyon and Sioux Rural Water systems to be put in place for several days.
  o Rock Valley Municipal Water Plant, Sioux County, lost power to three wells, leaving only one well operational. One well was completely submerged by flood waters on June 18.
  o The Sioux County city of Hawarden sandbagged their two wells to protect them from the Big Sioux River.
  o The Sioux City Water Department, Woodbury County, sandbagged their riverside water collector as floodwaters from the Big Sioux River threatened the facility on June 18.
  o The city of Linn Grove, Buena Vista County, had city water system failures. This resulted in emergency protective measures to ensure potable water service.

• Damages from the June 19 storm caused inmates at the Newton Correctional facility to be moved out of one dormitory and into another after the facility experienced significant water damage.

Agriculture.

• Iowa is the national leader in corn, soybean, pork and egg production, and second nationally in red meat, net farm income, and overall agriculture exports. In 2011, Iowa agriculture contributed $9.875 billion to Iowa’s economy, or about 6.6% of Iowa’s Gross Domestic Product. With spring planting having just concluded in much of the state, young crops were severely damaged and destroyed by hail, high winds, and heavy rains.
• On June 16, an estimated 2,000 hogs perished on one Franklin County farm after high winds destroyed a hog confinement building.
• Since 2013, 19 of the counties included in this request were also included in at least one Secretary of Agriculture Small Business Administration disaster declaration, with six counties included in two declarations and three counties included in three declarations apiece.
Commercial and Transportation.

- Damage to many roads is extensive, with roadbeds washed away, road surface scouring from overtopping, aggregate washout, culvert collapses, and bridge damage. These damages have rendered much of the affected roads impassable until repairs can be made. These damages impacted the ability of emergency response in the area, agricultural operations including care of young crops in fields and farm to market deliveries, and other commercial cargo from reaching its destination.
  - Law enforcement reported on June 15 that two to three feet of water covered U.S. Highway 20 near the city of Correctionville in Woodbury County.
  - Woodbury County officials reported water over several roads in the city of Sergeant Bluff on June 15.
  - The Lyon County Sherriff’s office advised against travel on any county gravel or paved roads, along with state highways in the county on June 17.
  - Several roads were closed in Iowa’s fourth largest city, Sioux City, Woodbury County, due to street flooding.
  - The Clay County Emergency Manager reported that a bridge over the Little Sioux River was washed out by storms on June 16 and 17, isolating one family.
  - The Iowa Department of Transportation reported the closure of Iowa Highway 9 in the city of Rock Rapids, Lyon County on June 17, and U.S. Highway 18 in the city of Rock Valley, Sioux County. U.S. Highway 9 is a major highway for emergency services between county hospitals in northwestern Iowa and more advanced medical care at hospitals in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
  - U.S. Highway 18 from the South Dakota State Line to three miles west of the Lyon County city of Inwood was closed starting June 17 due to flooding.
  - The City of George, Lyon County, reported early on June 17 that two bridges were closed after they were severely damaged.
  - Kossuth County Emergency Management reported on June 17 that there was water over roads in areas of the county, and storm debris blocking U.S. Highway 9 east of Swea City, Kossuth County.
  - The Dickinson County engineer reported between 20 and 30 road closures with water over the road the evening of June 17. By June 19, four roads remained closed due to high water.
  - Iowa Highway 10 was closed from the South Dakota State Line to the city of Hawarden in Sioux County starting on June 17 due to flooding.
  - Iowa Highway 3 was closed from the South Dakota State Line to near the city of Westfield, Plymouth County, starting on June 18 due to flooding.
  - Portions of U.S. Highway 71 were closed between the city of Spencer, Clay County, and Storm Lake, Buena Vista County, starting on June 18 due to flooding.
Buena Vista County Emergency Management reported approximately 200 secondary roads with damages throughout the county on June 17. By June 18, all but 25 of these roads had been reopened.

The Palo Alto County Engineer's office reported on June 18 approximately 2,000 locations where water had overtopped roadways. Several roadways and bridges were inaccessible due to floodwaters remaining over the roads and bridges.

By June 18, Kossuth County Emergency Management reported that the majority of streets in the city of Whitmore were underwater.

The Iowa Department of Transportation closed portions of U.S. Highway 169 north of the city of Algona, Kossuth County, due to flooding on June 18.

As of June 19, the Lyon County Engineer reported that five bridges were destroyed, and three more bridges were severely damaged.

U.S. Highway 69 was closed north of Belmond, Wright County, after floodwaters from the Iowa River overtopped the roadway on June 19.

The Big Sioux River forced the closure of Interstate 29 just across the border from Iowa in South Dakota on June 19. This closure resulted in a 454 mile detour for traffic, adding an additional four hours for through traffic to go from Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This detour took traffic through Iowa and into Minnesota, before reconnecting with Interstate 29 west of Sioux Falls, SD. This detour resulted in extra traffic on Interstates 80 and 35 in Iowa, and extra road wear on these roads. The portion of Interstate 29 was reopened on June 20.

Inspections of secondary roads in Lyon County recommended closure of 17 bridges for reasons of safety due to damages as a direct result of flooding. At present 14 of these bridges remain closed.

- Damages sustained in Lyon and Sioux counties were sufficient in severity and magnitude to warrant a Small Business Administration declaration of disaster.
- CF Industries Port Neal Plant in Sergeant Bluff, Woodbury County, reported that the plant’s intake pumps on the Missouri River were underwater, as well as their wastewater discharge pipes. The plant produces urea ammonium nitrate (UAN).
- The roof was torn from Trinity Lutheran School in the city of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, on June 17. This may affect summer programs scheduled in the coming weeks.
- Buildings at Route 63 Motors were blown over in rural Bremer County.
- A church roof and a barn housing cattle west of the city of Westgate, Fayette County, were damaged.
- The Railroad Museum in Sioux City, Woodbury County, was closed starting on June 18, as the museum worked to move its collection out of the threats posed by flooding from the Big Sioux River.
- Traffic on the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers was limited starting on June 19. These rivers host both commercial barge traffic and recreational traffic.
- Meridian Manufacturing, located in Storm Lake, Buena Vista County, sustained over $100,000 in damages from localized flooding. Meridian Manufacturing is a leading manufacturer of grain bins and grain hauling equipment.

- After sustaining heavy damages in the June 3 and 4 severe weather event the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) again delayed the reopening of Wilson Island State Recreation Area in Pottawattamie County due to additional flooding from the Missouri River in this most recent event. The park had been closed since flooding in 2011 (Presidential Disaster Declaration DR-1998).

- George Wyth State Park, located in Black Hawk County, was closed starting June 20 by the Iowa DNR due to flooding.

- Ledges State Park, located in Boone County, was closed due to flooding on June 17 by the Iowa DNR.

- The Butler County Conservation Board closed all county parks starting on June 19 as floodwaters overtopped roads in parks.

- Popular recreational bicycle trails in and around the city of Des Moines and Saylorville Reservoir in Polk County were closed starting June 19 as outflow from Saylorville Reservoir was increased to ensure capacity for higher than normal flow from the Des Moines River.

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had to close beaches and low-water boat ramps on Saylorville Reservoir in Polk County. Saylorville is a popular recreational area.

- The Iowa DNR evacuated Yellow River State Forest near Harpers Ferry, Allamakee County, on June 18 due to flooding.

- County parks in the southern half of Allamakee County were closed on June 19 as roads within the parks were underwater from flood waters.

- Trails in Volga River State Recreation Area, Fayette County, and Brushy Creek State Recreation Area, Webster County, were closed due to extremely wet conditions posing hazards to trail users.

- The Iowa DNR fish hatchery on Spirit Lake, Dickinson County, was damaged after a large tree fell on the main building.

- Twelve miles of track and four bridges of the South Dakota state-owned Dakota and Iowa Railroad were underwater as of June 19. The railroad’s line from Canton, SD to Elk Point, SD runs through Lyon, Sioux, and Plymouth counties in Iowa; serving two ethanol plants. The line also serves as one of the primary transportation routes for aggregate stone from L.G. Everist. L.G. Everist, with locations throughout the Midwest, is one of the region’s largest suppliers of stone, gravel and sand. By Governor’s Proclamation on July 9, I specifically waived certain state highway weight restrictions to effect quicker repairs to this important railroad.
Residential.

- Damages sustained in Lyon and Sioux counties were sufficient in severity and magnitude to warrant a Small Business Administration declaration of disaster.
- 60 homes were categorized as majorly damaged or destroyed in Rock Rapids, Lyon County and Rock Valley, Sioux County, exacerbating an already depleted housing stock. The loss of these homes has created an additional burden to an area that was struggling to house families prior to the flooding.
- An EF-1 tornado significantly damaged a home in Butler County on June 16.
- One house north of the city of Manchester, Delaware County, had the roof torn off the structure and outbuildings were also destroyed. Another had significant damage to the roof in Delaware County as a result of storms June 16 and June 17.
- Roofs of residential buildings damaged and campers were flipped upside down in the city of Edgewood, in both Clayton and Delaware counties.
- Three homes of the Lyon County Public Health Department Homes were severely damaged by floodwaters from the Rock River in Rock Rapids, Lyon County.
- Several homes in Woodbury County were reported to have water in basements, and one home suffered a collapsed basement wall.
- Downburst winds of 105 mph on June 17 in the City of Durant, Cedar County, resulted in damages to several homes and condominiums.
- After a levee on the Rock River was breached on June 17, the City of Rock Valley, Sioux County reported that an estimated 500 homes had flood water damages, with roughly 50 of those homes having water damages to the first floor.

Utilities and Telecommunication.

- Extreme winds combined with large hail resulted in several electrical outages throughout the affected area.
  - MidAmerican Energy reported via their website that a peak of 18,595 customers were without power on June 17.
  - Alliant Energy reported via their website that a peak of 12,643 customers were without power on June 17.
  - Pocahontas County requested 10,000 sandbags and three rolls of plastic to protect the Iowa Power and Light electrical substation in the city of Rolfe.
  - The City of Superior, Dickinson County, went without power to a total of 33 hours, starting on June 16 until power was restored June 18.
- The Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Station in Blair Nebraska activated its Operation Control Center for 24 hour operations starting on June 17 due to rising Missouri River levels. The station also mobilized its sandbagging and flood protection equipment. The Fort Calhoun Nuclear Power Station is directly across the Missouri River from Iowa, and its operations directly affect Iowa. On June 20, the power station started taking steps to shut down the nuclear reactor, and activated its Operation Control Center 24-hours a day. By June 21, the Missouri River had crested at the power station, and shutdown operations were cancelled.
RESOURCES PROVIDED.

The following describes the nature and amount of State and local resources that have been or will be used to alleviate conditions of this disaster as outlined in Section 9 of the Request for Presidential Disaster (FEMA Form 010-0-13).

- Local Resources:
  - During the storms, most local jurisdictions performed storm spotting duties.
  - County Engineer’s offices throughout the affected area barricaded roads that had been washed out, overtopped, or otherwise impassable.
  - The Sioux County Emergency Management Agency provided a pump to the City of Rock Rapids in Lyon County as the Rock River left its banks on June 16.
  - The City of Rock Rapids, Lyon County, sandbagged storm sewer inlets in town on June 16 in an attempt to prevent further flooding from the Rock River.
  - Buena Vista County provided 20,000 sandbags to Lyon County on June 17.
  - Johnson County assisted the City of Durant, located in Cedar, Muscatine, and Scott counties, with debris removal, providing a truck and a wood chipper/shredder.
  - Kossuth County deployed trash pumps to the city of Whitemore in Kossuth County on June 17.
  - When the city of Fenton in Kossuth County lost power the night of June 17, Kossuth County Emergency Management delivered portable oxygen to those in need of it.
  - City of Superior’s fire department, Dickinson County, opened the City Hall as a shelter after power was lost to the city on June 17. Three citizens were reported to have utilized the shelter between June 17 and June 18.
  - Dickinson County Emergency Management provided 48,000 sandbags to the city of Hawarden in Sioux County on June 17.
  - The Franklin County Emergency Management relocated two State-owned pumps to Sioux County.
  - Harrison County provided 20,000 sandbags to Plymouth County.
  - The Whittemore Fire Department, Kossuth County, used a pumper truck to pump water in an effort to prevent floodwaters from overtaking the fire station and city generator.
  - The city of Whittemore, Kossuth County, used 150 tons of sand to fill sandbags to protect the city.
  - On June 18, officials in the city of Sioux City, Woodbury County closed floodgates along the Big Sioux River.
  - Officials in Sioux City, Woodbury County, raised and extended the levee adjacent to the Big Sioux River to protect homes and businesses on Riverside Drive, as flood levels were expected to exceed those of 2011 flooding (DR-1998).
- Cerro Gordo County transported a pump to the City of Garner in Hancock County on June 19. The pump was needed to relieve pressure in the sanitary sewer system.
- Woodbury County closed boat ramps and access points to the Big Sioux River starting on June 19.
- Allamakee County distributed sandbags to residents of the city of Waukon on June 19.

- Non-Governmental Organization resources:
  - American Red Cross:
    - Opened Shelters in the following locations:
      - Central Lyon High School, Rock Rapids, Lyon County, with peak occupancy of 31.
      - Rock Valley Faith Reformed Church, Rock Valley, Sioux County, with peak occupancy of 73.
      - Cherokee Community Center, Cherokee, Cherokee County, with peak occupancy of six.
      - Sioux City West Middle School, Woodbury County, however, none utilized it.
    - Provided clean-up kits to residents of Rock Rapids, Lyon County; and Rock Valley, Sioux County.
  - The Church of Latter Day Saints provided cleanup kits.
  - Pepsi Co. provided drinking water to the city of Rock Rapids, Lyon County, on June 17 after their water treatment plant was shut down.
  - Volunteer Storm Spotters were activated on June 16, June 17, and June 18 as continuous storms affected the area.
  - The Iowa Association of Rural Electrical Cooperatives provided outage numbers as needed.
  - NECHAMA, Jewish Response to Disaster, provided cleanup work in Rock Rapids, Lyon County.

- State Resources:
  - Governor's Office
    - I visited portions of Sioux and Lyon counties on June 18 to assess damages.
    - My office re-launched the iowafloodcentral.tumblr.com website to communicate information related to the flooding.
  - Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department
    - Coordination of emergency equipment, including: sandbags, pumps, HESCO barriers, and generators.
    - Activated the State Emergency Operations Center.
    - Provided computerized mapping support to Sioux County as the Rock River rose to record levels.
    - The Iowa Urban Search and Rescue Team, Sioux City Division (Iowa Task Force 1) was activated to provide water rescue support in Rock Valley.
• Iowa Task Force 1 rescued three persons trying to evacuate from a home that was near heavy currents of the flooded Rock River in Sioux County.
• Iowa Task Force 1 performed eight house-to-house rescues in the Sioux County town of Rock Valley, rescuing a total of 13 people from flooded homes.
  ▪ Sent 10,000 sandbags and three rolls of plastic to Pocahontas County.
  ▪ Recovery Division provided coordination of damage assessments from multiple agencies.
  ▪ Recovery Division sent personnel to Lyon and Sioux counties to assist with the State Individual Assistance program and Public Assistance programs.
  ▪ Coordinated multi-agency housing task force to assist with long term housing needs in the affected counties.
  ▪ Sent six pumps to Rock Valley in Sioux County.
  ▪ Provided a pump to the City of Klemme, Hancock County.
  ▪ Iowa Department of Corrections
    ▪ Provided inmates for debris removal in Cedar County.
  ▪ Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS)
    ▪ Disaster Behavioral Response Teams were made available to respond to requests for assistance in the affected areas. These teams are trained to provide post-disaster mental health services.
  ▪ Iowa Department of Public Defense (Iowa National Guard)
    ▪ Provided manpower to load and unload trucks with sandbags, pumps, and other equipment.
  ▪ Iowa Department of Public Safety (Iowa State Patrol)
    ▪ Provided State Troopers to Lyon County to assist in traffic management, and public safety operations.
    ▪ Provided a liaison to Woodbury County to provide National Guard coordination in the affect area.
    ▪ Provided assistance from the Fire Marshall’s office to the City of Rock Rapids, Lyon County to inspect homes damaged by flooding of the Rock River
  ▪ Iowa Department of Natural Resources
    ▪ Monitored Water and Wastewater Treatment facilities in the affected areas
  ▪ Iowa Department of Transportation
    ▪ Coordinated flood operations at water treatment, and wastewater treatment facilities throughout the affected area.
    ▪ Transported 250,000 sandbags to Sioux County.
    ▪ Provided road barricades to Lyon County.
    ▪ Provided five loads of sand to the Rock Valley Fire Department, Sioux County.
    ▪ Transported 10,000 sandbags and three rolls of plastic to Pocahontas County.
• Federal Resources already committed:
  o Federal Emergency Management Agency
    ▪ Monitored event, and offered operational support as needed.
  o National Weather Service
    ▪ Provided ongoing weather briefings and related information throughout the event.
    ▪ The National Weather Service sent damage assessment teams to Butler, Bremer, Cedar, and Franklin counties on June 17 to assess damages from June 16 and June 17.
  o U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
    ▪ Provided technical assistance and advance measures to protect critical facilities in Rock Valley, Sioux County, the city of Sioux City, Woodbury County.
    ▪ Provided pumps to Plymouth County.
    ▪ Assisted in limiting river traffic on the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers
  o United States Coast Guard
    ▪ Assisted in limiting river traffic on the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SUMMARY.

Flood waters and storms left much of the affected area with significant debris, such as vegetation, dirt and sand, and other debris (Category A). Many communities in the affected area took emergency protective measures to protect critical facilities (Category B). Floodwaters caused significant damages to roads and bridges, such as scouring of the road surface, undercutting of road beds, culvert collapses, and bridge washouts (Category C). Pumping stations throughout the affected area were damaged. (Category D). Some of the affected area also suffered damages to other public facilities, damaging critical equipment (Category E). Water treatment facilities and associated infrastructure were impacted due to power loss (Category F). State parks, County, and municipal parks were impacted (Category G).

Below is a summary of estimated Public Assistance eligible damages in the 26 counties for which I am requesting Federal assistance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Estimated $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (Debris Removal)</td>
<td>$1,079,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (Emergency Protective Measures)</td>
<td>$578,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (Roads &amp; Bridges)</td>
<td>$7,433,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (Water Control Facilities)</td>
<td>$79,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E (Buildings &amp; Equipment)</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (Utilities)</td>
<td>$601,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G (Parks, Rec Facilities, Other)</td>
<td>$1,857,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,631,979</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ROLE OF PRIOR HAZARD MITIGATION EFFORTS.

The State of Iowa has been proactive in hazard mitigation planning activities for many years. The State’s planning process is driven by Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) and is synchronized through the coordination and integration of local hazard mitigation planning with interagency planning of the State Hazard Mitigation Team. The State has an approved Enhanced State Mitigation Plan through September 18, 2018.

Since 1990, the State of Iowa has been proactive in mitigating the affects of flooding to private and public property in the affected area. The most significant mitigation effort includes the acquisition of flood-prone properties which were converted into permanent open space in the floodplain. It is estimated that 394 properties acquired through 27 completed projects in the affected counties may have been damaged as a result of this most recent flooding. It is estimated that this resulted in over $9.8 million in avoided damages in this most recent event.

In partnership with Rural Electrical Cooperative, the State of Iowa has retrofitted 135 miles of electrical lines in the affected areas to withstand high winds. According to reports from Rural Electrical Cooperatives, the power lines that were mitigated sustained no damages from this event.

Iowa has also been proactive in promoting the construction of tornado safe rooms in schools and other public facilities throughout the state. In this most recent event, several Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funded tornado safe rooms have been utilized.

On June 16, the tornado safe room at the Anamosa Middle School in Jones County was opened during severe weather. An estimated 30 people utilized the tornado safe room during the storm that evening. Also on June 16, The Black Hawk County Conservation Board’s tornado safe room in the campgrounds at Hickory Hills Park had 17 people take refuge from storms. The recently completed safe room at the Valley Community School District’s kindergarten through 12th grade facility near the city of Elgin in Fayette County provided protection for an estimated ten occupants on June 16. The Mason City High School girls’ softball team was taking on the Fort Dodge girls’ softball team at the Mason City High School, Cerro Gordo County, as weather conditions deteriorated during the game on June 16, officials called off the game and sent the Mason City team home. However, with Fort Dodge, Webster County, 95 miles away, 20 Fort Dodge softball players and students, 15 adults, two other game spectators, and two school staff stayed in the tornado safe room within the school until the storms had passed for the evening. Also in Mason City, an estimated 27 people utilized the tornado safe room at MacNider Park on June 16.

The next evening, June 17, the North Iowa Community School tornado safe room in Buffalo Center, Winnebago County was used to protect people from storms. It was reported that 11 citizens sought shelter in this tornado safe room.

The State of Iowa has enacted a program to mitigate hazards from flooding in communities across the state utilizing tax increment financing. An $8 million project is currently approved in the City of Storm Lake, Buena Vista County, to expand the capabilities of the storm water management system in the community.
PREVIOUS DISASTER EVENTS.

Currently, the State of Iowa has 14 open presidentially-declared disasters for Public Assistance. All 26 of the counties for which I am requesting a declaration are included in at least one of these presidentially-declared disasters. The latest round of damage only serves to cause additional stress to these counties.

In the year prior to this event, I issued 19 State of Iowa Disaster Emergency Proclamations, starting with severe storms, flooding, and tornados between May 19, 2013 and June 28, 2013. Presidential Disaster Declarations DR-4126 and DR-4135.

On June 3 and June 4, 2014, severe storms caused extensive damages in 11 counties in Southwest Iowa. I issued three State of Iowa Proclamations of Disaster Emergency related to this event. This event resulted in a request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Iowa, which was submitted on July 7, 2014.

ASSISTANCE REQUESTED AND CERTIFICATIONS GIVEN.

Preliminary estimates of the types and amount of assistance needed under the Stafford Act are tabulated in the enclosures, particularly, Enclosure B1. The Governor’s Certification is included in Enclosure B2.

I certify that for this major disaster, the State and local governments will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act. The total non-Federal expenditures for the period starting June 14, 2014 through June 23, 2014 are expected to exceed $2.9 million.

I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property to include debris removal, emergency protective measures, long-term housing/sheltering. Because of the continuing nature of the flooding, it is still too early to determine the exact needs. Further, I request Hazard Mitigation “Statewide”.

In accordance with 44 CFR § 206.208, the State of Iowa agrees that with respect to direct Federal assistance, it will do the following:

1. Provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements and rights-of-ways necessary to accomplish the approved work;
2. Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work;
3. Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State Agreement; and
4. Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.
Pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5170b, 5173, the State agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

I hereby designate Patrick J. Hall as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He will work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and may provide further information or justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Terry E. Branstad
Governor, State of Iowa

Enclosures

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13
B: Public Assistance
ENCLOSURE B1 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Requirements for Public Assistance
Under the Stafford Act

CATEGORY

Note: Estimates reflect total eligible costs before any cost sharing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>$451,313</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,079,294</strong></td>
<td><strong>$578,354</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,433,394</strong></td>
<td><strong>$79,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$601,340</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,857,097</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,631,979</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENCLOSURE B2 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Governor’s Certification

I certify that for this current disaster, State and local government expenditures and obligations will include the non-Federal share and costs required by the Stafford Act. As stated in my basic letter, and based on information available at this time, tabulation of these estimated expenditures and obligations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY OF ASSISTANCE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Assistance:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Other Assistance” under the Individual and Households Program</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (specify)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Assistance:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category A – Debris Removal</td>
<td>$107,929.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category B – Emergency Protective Measures</td>
<td>$57,835.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category C – Roads and Bridges</td>
<td>$743,339.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category D – Water Control Facilities</td>
<td>$7,950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category E – Buildings and Equipment</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category F – Utilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category G – Other (Parks, Recreational Facilities, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Total:</td>
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