

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 15, 2015

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Governor Pete Ricketts's request for a major disaster declaration for the May 2015 storms that impacted the following counties in Nebraska: Cass, Dundy, Gage, Jefferson, Lincoln, Lancaster, Morrill, Nuckolls, Otoe, Saline, Saunders, and Thayer.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency estimates the expenses resulting from the devastation caused by these storms to be approximately \$13.8 million. The high winds, heavy rains, and tornadoes from these severe storms caused extensive damage to public infrastructure. Bridges were destroyed, which led to critical road closures. Additionally, rail lines incurred extensive damage, and floodwater devastated homes. Unfortunately, critical infrastructure systems were not the only casualties of these severe storms. Four lives were also lost.

Following natural disasters, Nebraskans have always demonstrated their resilience and solidarity when working together on recovery efforts. As our communities recover and rebuild, the federal government has an opportunity to support our state in helping these restoration efforts.

We appreciate your prompt consideration of the governor's request.

Sincerely,



Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Ben Sasse
United States Senator



Jeff Fortenberry
Member of Congress



Brad Ashford
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith
Member of Congress