



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

July 7, 2010

Mr. Frank Skaggs  
U. S. Small Business Administration  
Office of Disaster Assistance  
Field Operations Center East  
101 Marietta St. NW, Suite 700  
Atlanta, GA 30303-2725

Dear Mr. Skaggs:

I am requesting a U. S. Small Business Administration Disaster Declaration for the state of Minnesota in Faribault, Freeborn, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Polk, Steele, and Wadena counties as a result of severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding occurring on June 17-26, 2010.

On June 17, 2010, severe storms affected much of the state, with multiple supercells producing 20 confirmed tornadoes ranging in intensity from EF0 (65-85 mph) to EF4 (166-200 mph) on the Enhanced Fujita scale. Strong winds, heavy rains, and hail also affected portions of the state. Three fatalities have been confirmed and numerous injuries reported. Local emergencies were declared in the counties of Faribault, Freeborn, Steele, and Wadena, and in the city of Wadena. Damage to homes, farmsteads, public infrastructure, and businesses has been extensive.

A Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) was conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), and local officials June 22-23, 2010. The PDA identified over one hundred homes and businesses that are considered destroyed or damaged to the extent that they are uninhabitable without extensive repair.

On June 25, 2010, I requested a major declaration for Individual Assistance (IA) pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act). Although this disaster is devastating to the individuals, households, and business operators directly impacted by the severe storms,

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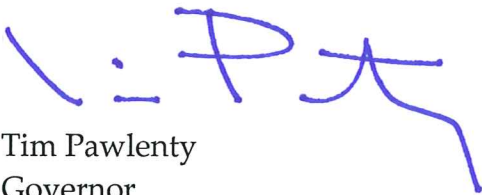
tornadoes, and flooding, my request for federal assistance was denied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on July 2, 2010. Although I will not appeal the FEMA denial for an Individual Assistance disaster declaration, I am seeking immediate federal assistance from the SBA.

Based on the information collected during the PDA, I certify that in Otter Tail and Wadena Counties, there are at least 25 homes or 25 businesses or a combination thereof that have sustained uninsured losses of 40 percent or more of the estimated fair market replacement value or pre-disaster fair market value of the damaged property, whichever is lower.

For these reasons, I request consideration of all counties named in this request due to the statewide nature of these events. Likewise, I request an SBA Disaster Declaration for Faribault, Freeborn, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Polk, Steele, and Wadena counties and that the SBA disaster loans be offered to eligible individuals and businesses in the counties that are contiguous to the requested counties.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Pawlenty', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Tim Pawlenty  
Governor

c: Kris Eide, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division