

Congress of the United States

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 22, 2019

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully request that you promptly consider the August 19, 2019 request from Governor Tony Evers for a major disaster declaration. We endorse the governor's request for a major disaster declaration 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), and implemented by 44CFR § 206.36.

Between July 18 and July 20, a series of severe storms left a wide swath of damage across central and northern Wisconsin. The storms brought gale-force winds, heavy rainfall and subsequent flash flooding, and several tornadoes touched down. The resulting damage included hundreds of toppled utility poles and downed power lines. In addition, two Wisconsinites died while clearing debris.

We believe the damage caused to public infrastructure qualifies this three-day event as a major disaster. Damage and repair costs have been officially estimated at over \$19 million. As noted in the governor's request, the damage inflicted exceeds the response capabilities of the state government and the affected local units of government. It is also our understanding that the state and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal shares of cost, as required by the Stafford Act.

Therefore, in coordination with the damage assessments from FEMA, we support federal assistance via the Public Assistance Program to further recovery efforts in the following 18 counties: Barron, Clark, Forest, La Crosse, Langlade, Marinette, Menominee, Monroe, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Polk, Portage, Rusk, Shawano, Vernon, Waupaca and Wood. In addition, we support the FEMA support being made available to two federally recognized Indian tribes: the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, and the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Bryan Steil
Member of Congress