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More Counties Added to Presidential Disaster Declaration

DES MOINES – Governor Chet Culver announced today that 15 additional counties affected by the severe winter storm in January have been added to the Presidential Disaster Declaration granted March 2, 2010, bringing the total number of counties covered by the declaration to 27.

“This declaration is critical in helping affected areas recover from this devastating storm,” said Culver. “These funds are a tremendous boost for local governments already under the strain of tight economic times.”

Counties added to the declaration are: Adams, Boone, Buena Vista, Cherokee, Clay, Dallas, Emmet, Greene, Hardin, Ida, Monona, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Story and Union.

This declaration provides assistance to state and local governments and certain private non-profit organizations (including rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities) for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. The 12 initial counties covered in the declaration were: Adair, Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Crawford, Guthrie, Harrison, Madison, Pottawattamie, Sac and Shelby.

Public Assistance Program funds are available to rebuild infrastructure that may include roads, bridges, culverts and other public facilities, or to cover costs of emergency work during the Jan. 19-26 storm. This declaration is not related to the severe winter storm that hit the state in December.

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