

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 27, 2010

Contact: Lucinda Robertson or Stefanie Bond
515-725-3231
HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov

Des Moines and Lee Counties Receive Presidential Disaster Declaration

DES MOINES – Governor Chet Culver today received notification that President Obama has authorized a Presidential Disaster Declaration for two counties impacted by severe storms and flooding that occurred May 12-13, 2010.

The declaration by the President will provide federal funding to Des Moines and Lee counties under the Public Assistance Program. Public Assistance program funds are available to public entities and select nonprofit agencies to rebuild damaged infrastructure that may include roads, bridges, culverts, and other public facilities, or to cover costs of emergency work during the storms.

“I am pleased to see the Presidential Disaster Declaration for Des Moines and Lee counties come through,” Culver said. “We have had great cooperation with the Obama administration and our members of Congress when it comes to getting lowans the resources we will need to recover from recent severe weather and floods.”

The Governor also received notification that the Presidential Disaster Declaration includes funding to conduct hazard mitigation activities for the entire state. With this funding, Iowa will be able to minimize the impact of future natural disasters by taking steps now to strengthen existing infrastructure.

On July 7, Governor Culver requested a disaster declaration for 35 counties impacted by flooding and storms beginning June 1, 2010. Additional counties may be added to the Presidential Disaster Declaration request following the assessment of damages that resulted from the most recent storms and flooding. Damage assessments are scheduled to be completed by Aug. 1. That request is pending.

###