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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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UPDATE: Damage Assessment Continues

COLUMBIA, S.C. (Monday, April 13, 2009 11:15 A.M.) – The South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) is currently assisting several counties in South Carolina which were affected by severe weather, including tornadoes, late Friday night and early Saturday morning.

Currently statewide, **49** homes have been reported as destroyed, **107** homes with major damage and **141** homes with minor damage. Damage assessments are ongoing in the affected counties.

One traffic-related death as a result of the storms has been confirmed in Aiken County. The most significant damage has been reported in Abbeville, Aiken, Anderson, Greenwood and Union Counties.

The work continues in the areas affected. Since the severe weather Friday night, the State of South Carolina has seen a tremendous amount of support from volunteer organizations, local responders, and state agencies in helping the people recover from the damage caused by this string of storms.

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****For more information contact Derrec Becker or Joe Farmer at (803) 737-8500****