



## State of South Carolina

### Office of the Governor

JIM HODGES  
GOVERNOR

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January 29, 2000

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Through: John B. Copenhaver  
Regional Director  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road  
Atlanta, GA 30341

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended, and implemented by 44 CFR, Part 906.36(d), I request that you declare a major disaster for the State of South Carolina as a result of the effects of severe winter storms that have impacted South Carolina over the past week and continue to disrupt the lives of thousands of South Carolinians.

South Carolina has been impacted by three back-to-back winter storms that have been compounded by continued extremely low temperatures. The first storm struck the State on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> producing snow and extensive icing in the Northern counties of the State and resulted in extensive power outages, storm related debris and the disruption of transportation systems. On January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> the State was once again struck by a severe winter storm that nearly paralyzed primary transportation routes in the Northern and Central regions of the State, due to over twelve inches of snow that fell, resulting in over 150,000 citizens being left without power. Many impacted counties snowfall exceeds the snowfall of record, as documented by the NOAA, National Climatic Data Center. This storm has placed an extraordinary burden on the State and impacted local governments and utilities that continue to deal with the difficult tasks of road clearing, power restoration, and debris removal. Today we are experiencing our third winter storm that is bringing significant freezing precipitation to the State, compounding our difficult recovery efforts with additional power outages and hazardous roadways.

Many local governments have already incurred significant costs related to these storms and extensive response and recovery operations are ongoing. Emergency snow removal, extensive debris clearance, public utility service restoration, and increased emergency

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service requests are among the most significant challenges faced. Local government emergency actions have already exceeded \$1.6 million and are expected to continue to increase.

Numerous electric power cooperatives have experienced substantial system damages and are relying on support from surrounding states to assist in their restoration efforts. Preliminary estimates indicate that cooperative damages will exceed \$ 4 million.

I have ordered 300 National Guard Troops and specialized equipment to state active duty to assist in ongoing debris removal, emergency snow removal, and emergency transportation requirements. This necessary emergency action will most likely exceed \$500,000.

The State Department of Transportation has been aggressively working across the entire state to keep primary transportation routes open and to the extent possible assist local governments with emergency local road clearing operations. DOT operations are ongoing and will most likely be required for several more days, resulting in emergency expenditures exceeding \$3 million.

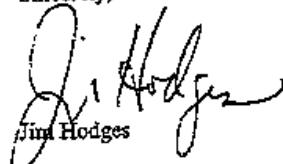
In response to this situation I have taken appropriate action under State law by declaring a State of Emergency, through Executive Order 2000-07, and directing the execution of the State Emergency Operations Plan. The State Emergency Operations Center continues 24-hour operations to coordinate all ongoing response and recovery actions.

I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and impacted local governments and that supplementary Federal emergency assistance is necessary. I am specifically requesting Public Assistance in Categories A through G for Cherokee, Chester, Chesterfield, Darlington, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, Marlboro, Newberry, Spartanburg, Union, and York counties and state agency emergency protective measures, statewide. I further request that the entire state be eligible for Hazard Mitigation Assistance.

I certify that for this disaster, the State and local governments will assume the applicable non-Federal share of costs required by Public Law 93-288, as amended. Total expenditures are expected to exceed \$ 9.2 million, in accordance with the tables in Enclosures A and B.

I have designated Stan M. McKinney as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He will work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in damage assessments and may provide further information or justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,



Jim Hodges

Enclosure

**Enclosure A to Major Disaster Request  
Estimated Requirements for Public Assistance  
Public Law 93-288, as amended**

County	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	TOTAL
Cherokee	10,000	15,000				150,000		175,000
Chester	590	88,926				225,000		314,516
Chesterfield	16,500	80,000			20,000	850,000		966,500
Darlington	11,000	48,700				50,000		109,700
Fairfield	14,000	10,000				130,000		154,000
Kershaw	8,000	22,000				775,000		805,000
Lancaster	110,000	150,000				200,000		460,000
Laurens	9,997	120,932				150,000		280,929
Marlboro	13,334	9,509				8,000		30,843
Newberry	18,750	56,250				72,000		147,000
Spartanburg	30,000	45,000				465,000		540,000
Union	91,200	18,500			25,000	310,550		445,250
York	<u>128,130</u>	<u>512,320</u>				<u>500,000</u>		<u>1,140,450</u>
<b>County Total</b>	<b>\$461,501</b>	<b>\$1,177,137</b>			<b>\$45,000</b>	<b>\$3,885,550</b>		<b>\$5,569,188</b>
<b>State Agency Total</b>		<b><u>\$3,700,000</u></b>						<b><u>\$3,700,000</u></b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$461,501</b>	<b>\$4,877,137</b>			<b>\$45,000</b>	<b>\$3,885,550</b>		<b>\$9,269,188</b>

Category A - Debris Removal  
Category B - Emergency Protective Measures  
Category C - Road Systems  
Category D - Water Control Facilities  
Category E - Public Buildings & Facilities  
Category F - Public Utilities  
Category G - Other