

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2309

June 8, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

First, we write to thank you for issuing a major disaster declaration for the State of Minnesota in response to the damage caused by the severe storms and tornadoes on May 21 to 22. The public assistance granted under that declaration will help these communities recover from the damage caused to public infrastructure.

We also write in support of Governor Dayton's request to urge you to amend the declaration to provide individual assistance in addition to the public assistance. The area damaged by the storm is a densely populated residential neighborhood. More than 600 buildings were damaged, including at least 35 homes that are now uninhabitable. This community has a high number of uninsured residents, including many renters. Without individual assistance, we fear for the ability of this community to quickly recover.

Your administration has already acknowledged the damage caused by the storm to the infrastructure of this community. We write to urge you to consider the impact of this disaster on the individuals within the affected community, and to ask you to grant individual assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your assistance in helping the recovery effort across Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Al Franken
United States Senator



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress