



KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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May 14, 2024

Secretary Tom Vilsack
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250

Secretary Vilsack,

Today, President Biden approved Iowa's request for a Major Disaster Declaration in response to severe storms on April 26-27, 2024, where 24 tornados damaged or destroyed hundreds of homes and buildings, killing one and injuring 6 Iowans. While this declaration activates assistance to individual Iowa homeowners and businesses through Federal Emergency Management Agency and Small Business Administration programs, the storms also caused significant damages to farms and agricultural operations in eight counties in Iowa.

Iowa farmers have been significantly impacted by these storms and require assistance to recover from these catastrophic damages and to rebuild and replace destroyed grain bins, farm equipment, and operational business losses. Disaster Assistance programs only offered through the Farm Service Agency following a Secretarial Designation, including the Farm Loans Program and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock Program, are needed to help Iowa farmers recover from these storms.

As a result, we respectfully request your consideration and prompt issuance of U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretarial Designation and activation of any and all eligible assistance for the following eight Iowa counties: Clarke, Harrison, Mills, Polk, Pottawattamie, Ringgold, Shelby, and Union.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Reynolds".

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Naig".

Mike Naig
Iowa Secretary of Agriculture