



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

September 4, 2018

Mr. Ken Fleming, Director
U. S. Small Business Administration
Disaster Assistance Field Operations Center – East
101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 700
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2725

Dear Mr. Fleming:

An intense storm system moved across the western Upper Peninsula (U.P.) region of Michigan June 16 and June 17, 2018, resulting in severe widespread flooding and damage to numerous homes and businesses in Houghton County, Michigan. The storm produced historically heavy rainfalls, and according to National Weather Service data, it was a 1,000-year rain event.

A joint federal, state, and local Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for the Individuals and Households Program (IHP) was conducted to survey the affected areas from June 26 to June 29, 2018. Three homes were destroyed, 48 homes incurred major damage, 172 homes received minor damage, and 243 homes were affected by the flooding. These structures sustained sufficient uninsured losses meeting or exceeding the required 40 percent of pre-disaster fair market value. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) also participated in the PDA survey and identified 16 businesses that incurred major damage and 40 businesses that received minor damage.

Because President Trump did not approve the request seeking IHP from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for this incident, I am requesting that Houghton County, Michigan be declared a disaster area by the SBA, thereby making low interest rate loans available to the owners of affected property.

The counties of Baraga, Iron, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon also incurred flood damage from this incident. I specifically ask that these counties be included in the disaster declaration under the SBA's contiguous county provision.

If you require additional information regarding these assessments, please contact F/Lt. Gabe Covey of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, at 517-284-3989, or email coveyg@michigan.gov.

Your favorable consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder
Governor

cc: Capt. Emmitt McGowan
F/Lt. Gabe Covey