

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

COL. JOSEPH M. GASPER

June 30, 2021

Mr. Kevin Sligh, Acting Regional Administrator Federal Emergency Management Agency-Region V 536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Mr. Sligh:

Communities in Michigan experienced extensive flood damage because of intense rain that began on June 25, 2021, resulting in widespread flooding in Southeast Michigan, with areas of Wayne County receiving over six inches of rain in a short period of time. Impacts include flooded roadways, stranded motorists, flooding of homes, and displaced residents. Several major roadways in the metro Detroit area were closed with vehicles submerged due to the fast-rising water.

That severe weather pattern continued into Saturday, June 26, 2021, with rain, thunderstorms, high winds, and several tornadoes impacting various areas of the state. The National Weather Service has confirmed six tornado touchdowns:

- EF-2 in Huron County
- EF-0 in Clare and Isabella counties (contiguous)
- EF-1 in Mecosta County
- EF-0 and EF-1 in Ionia County
- EF-0 in Kent County.

Based on photos of the flooding as well as information from local feedback, we feel that the damages warrant a joint FEMA/state Preliminary Damage Assessment in Wayne County to assess both individual and public assistance. While damage assessment information is still being gathered for the counties impacted by the tornadoes, preliminary photos and reports indicate that we request a joint FEMA/state Preliminary Damage Assessment to assess public assistance for Ionia and Huron counties with the other impacted counties as a possibility should damage reports warrant further activity.

Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Capt. Kevin Sweeney

Deputy State Director of Emergency Management

cc: Mr. Jim Opoka, Acting Recovery Division Director