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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com



(S.D.)-Governor Dugaard Seeks Presidential Disaster Declaration



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 05/07/2013 09:27 AM

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - Gov. Dennis Dugaard has requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration to help South Dakota recover from an ice and snow storm that hit the state last month.

Dugaard is requesting public assistance in seven counties: Shannon, Douglas, Hutchinson, Lincoln, McCook, Minnehaha, and Turner counties.

Damage to public and private nonprofit property is estimated at more than \$11 million from the storm that dropped more than 26 inches of snow on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and left more than 115,000 without power in the southeastern position of the state.

Dugaard's request is necessary for federal disaster funds to be made available to South Dakota. If President Obama grants the declaration, up to 75 percent of eligible costs could be reimbursed by the federal government.