Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 10, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Mr. Andrew Velasquez III
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region V
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our strong support for Governor Mitch Daniels' request for a Major Disaster Area Declaration for the State of Indiana following a sustained period of severe weather and flooding that began on April 19, 2011, and is still ongoing.

The Governor is requesting public assistance for the counties of Benton, Clark, Clay, Crawford, Daviess, Dearborn, Dubois, Floyd, Franklin, Gibson, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Knox, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Ohio, Orange, Parke, Perry, Pike, Posey, Putnam, Ripley, Scott, Spencer, Starke, Sullivan, Switzerland, Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Washington Counties.

Also, the Governor is requesting critical individual assistance for Decatur, Dubois, Gibson, Greene, Harrison, Lawrence, Monroe, Pike, Posey, Vanderburgh, and Vigo Counties. These counties in particular could benefit from the Individuals and Households Program, temporary housing, legal assistance, disaster unemployment assistance, crisis counseling and U.S. Small Business Administration Small Disaster Loans. Many of these counties are affected with higher than the national average levels of poverty, lower than average median household income, and a higher percentage of elderly and disabled persons. Without individual assistance, these Hoosiers will struggle to recover from the devastating effects of these storms.

The State of Indiana has compiled detailed information so FEMA can promptly and appropriately respond to the Governor's important request for both public and individual assistance. This period of disastrous weather, which included flooding, high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms, caused extensive damage to public and private property. Municipal-owned utilities suffered over $3 million in damage, debris removal is estimated to cost over $2 million, many local roads remain almost impassable because of sustained damage, flood waters damaged over 230 residential homes as well as businesses and government buildings, and,

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because water did not recede quickly, the current extreme heat is propagating mold in these buildings.

We trust the State of Indiana's assessment that this period of severe weather is beyond the capabilities of state and local governments and that supplemental federal assistance is essential. We hope careful consideration will be given to Governor Daniels' request, and we believe timely federal assistance will significantly assist Indiana's recovery efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Rep. Pete Visclosky (IN-1)

Rep. Joe Donnelly (IN-2)

Rep. Marlin Stutzman (IN-3)

Rep. Todd Rokita (IN-4)

Rep. Dan Burton (IN-5)

Rep. Mike Pence (IN-6)

Rep. Andre Carson (IN-7)

Rep. Larry Bucshon (IN-8)

Rep. Todd Young (IN-9)