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**(S.D.)- Obama Approves Disaster Declaration For Storm**



By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 05/10/2013 02:07 PM

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - Gov. Dennis Daugaard says his request for federal assistance to help with recovery efforts from a spring snow and ice storm last month has been approved.

President Obama signed a Presidential Disaster Declaration for seven South Dakota counties Friday, making federal financial help available. It authorized the federal government to provide recovery assistance for up to 75 percent of the eligible costs.

Preliminary estimates show the snow and ice storm caused at least \$11.4 million in damages to public and private nonprofit property. More than 115,000 people were left without power at some point during the storm in six southeastern South Dakota counties, while Shannon County and the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation had a record 26.5 inches of snow.