

United States Senate

August 15, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, D.C., 20500

President Biden:

I write today to reiterate my support for swift approval of the State of Montana's major disaster declaration request as a result of the severe storm that hit Missoula, Mineral, and Powell counties on July 24, 2024. On August 14, 2024, the Governor of Montana submitted a request for a major disaster declaration under Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. I support the Governor's request and urge its immediate approval.

The high winds and heavy rainfall from this storm uprooted trees and caused extensive damage to electrical infrastructure, leaving tens of thousands of Montanans without power for days. Neighborhoods and local business faced severe damages, which continue to impact Montanans' families and livelihoods. As communities begin to rebuild, it is essential that the federal government work with local leaders to get folks the resources they need to get back on their feet.

I urge you to promptly approve this request for a major disaster declaration and look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,



Senator Jon Tester