## Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem Secretary U.S. Department of Homeland Security 2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Noem,

On August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, extreme storms and flash floods severely damaged homes, businesses and infrastructure in southeastern Wisconsin, leaving families in desperate need of assistance. In response to these devastating storms, Governor Tony Evers declared a state of emergency across the State of Wisconsin on August 11, 2025. On August 13, the Governor submitted a request to FEMA to assist the state in conducting a formal federal preliminary damage assessment to determine if Wisconsin meets the thresholds for a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. We request your assistance in approving this request without delay to ensure that the state and local governments have the administration's support in assessing and responding to storm damage in Wisconsin.

Last weekend, unprecedented storms struck Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington, and Ozaukee Counties in a record rainfall that left thousands of homes without power and caused significant damage. We have been proud of the rapid response from Wisconsin's law enforcement, emergency response teams, utility workers, and volunteers, who have been working diligently to respond to the needs of Wisconsin residents. Firefighters have responded to over 600 calls, including for gas leaks, flooded basements, electrical outages, and water rescues, and crews evacuated people on boats.

Local and state officials are continuing to respond to the extensive damage caused by the storms as best they can, but they need FEMA's assistance now. We urge you to act without delay.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin

United States Senator

Gwen S. Moore

Member of Congress

Bryan Steil

Member of Congress