

FEMA Provides \$3.2 Million to South Dakota for Severe Winter Storm Damage

DENVER – FEMA approved more than \$3.2 million in Public Assistance funding for severe winter storm damage in South Dakota. The assistance was made available under a major disaster declaration issued November 8, 2013. This funding is being authorized under Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Act, which allows funds for cost-effective mitigation measures under the Public Assistance program for repairs, restoration, and replacement of eligible damaged facilities.

During the incident period, a severe winter storm with high winds and heavy wet snow caused ice buildup on power lines, causing them to bring down electrical poles, causing damage to the Grand Electric Cooperative's power grid and its components.

The funding from FEMA has allowed the cooperative to rebuild distribution lines to make them more resistant to damage from future storms. In Perkins County more than 50 miles of line was moved underground, while in Buffalo County, steel poles replaced wooden poles on more than 21 miles of line. This work ensures a more reliable power supply for members of the Grand Electric Cooperative. The project work will continue through next year.

This funding was provided under the Public Assistance Program's Alternative Procedures Pilot Program authorized by Section 428 of the Stafford Act. It is designed to achieve better recovery outcomes and simplify the delivery of assistance. This applied to large permanent work projects in any major disaster declared on or after May 20, 2013.

This pilot program has been superseded by Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) Version 4 effective June 1, 2020. The work will continue under the pilot program until completed.

Read more about the PAPPG and other programs at <https://www.fema.gov/assistance/public/policy-guidance-fact-sheets>.



Additional information about FEMA's Public Assistance program can be found at www.fema.gov/assistance/public.

