Oklahoma Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding – Denial of Appeal

Denied on September 2, 2009

On May 21, 2009, Governor Brad Henry requested a major disaster declaration due to severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding that occurred during the period of April 25 to May 16, 2009. The Governor had requested Public Assistance for 17 counties and Hazard Mitigation for all counties. On June 19, 2009, the Governor’s request was denied. On July 14, 2009, Governor Henry appealed the denial. During the period of May 12-29, 2009, joint Federal, State, and local Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted in the requested counties and are summarized below. PDAs estimate damages immediately after an event and are considered, along with several other factors, in determining whether a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local governments, and that Federal assistance is necessary.¹

On September 2, 2009, the Governor’s appeal for a major disaster declaration was denied based on the determination that the damage was not of such severity and magnitude as to be beyond the combined capabilities of the State, affected local governments, and voluntary agencies.²

Summary of Damage Assessment Information Used in Determining Whether to Declare a Major Disaster

Individual Assistance - (Not requested)

- Total Number of Residences Impacted:³ N/A
  - Destroyed - -
  - Major Damage - -
  - Minor Damage - -
  - Affected - -

- Percentage of insured residences:⁴ -
- Percentage of low income households:⁵ -
- Percentage of elderly households:⁶ -

Total Individual Assistance cost estimate: N/A

Public Assistance

- Primary Impact: Damage to roads and bridges
- Total Public Assistance cost estimate: $9,573,042
- Statewide per capita impact: $2.77
- Statewide per capita impact indicator: $1.31
- Countywide per capita impact:
  - Alfalfa County ($106.95)
  - Cherokee County ($5.42)
  - Choctaw County ($15.15)
  - Craig County ($12.49)
  - Dewey County ($7.38)
  - Garfield County ($3.49)
Countywide per capita impact indicator: $3.28