



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP 21 2011

The Honorable Pat Quinn  
Governor  
State of Illinois  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

Thank you for your letter of August 12, 2011, requesting a disaster designation for all eligible Illinois counties due to serious flooding events that occurred in 2011.

The Department of Agriculture has reviewed the Loss Assessment Reports and has determined that there were sufficient production losses in 46 counties to warrant a Secretarial disaster designation. Therefore, I am designating 46 Illinois counties as primary natural disaster areas because of damage and losses caused by excessive rain, flooding, and flash flooding that occurred during the period of April 1 through July 31, 2011. Those counties are:

Alexander	Greene	Madison	Saline
Brown	Hamilton	Marion	Schuyler
Calhoun	Hardin	McDonough	Scott
Carroll	Henry	Mercer	St. Clair
Cass	Jackson	Monroe	Stephenson
Clay	Jefferson	Perry	Union
Crawford	Jersey	Pope	Wabash
Edwards	Jo Daviess	Pulaski	Washington
Effingham	Johnson	Randolph	Wayne
Fayette	Knox	Richland	White
Franklin	Lawrence	Rock Island	Williamson
Gallatin	Lee		

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your State are named as contiguous disaster counties. Those counties are:

Adams	Fulton	Massac	Sangamon
Bond	Hancock	Menard	Shelby
Bureau	Henderson	Montgomery	Stark
Clark	Jasper	Morgan	Warren
Clinton	La Salle	Ogle	Whiteside
Cumberland	Macoupin	Peoria	Winnebago
De Kalb	Mason	Pike	

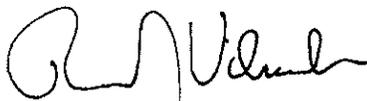
The Honorable Pat Quinn

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A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses, security available, and repayment ability. SURE Program applications for 2011 crop losses will be accepted in 2012, when the 2011 farm revenue data required by statute becomes available.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Vilsack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "V".

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary