Severe storms, generating tornadoes and straight-line winds, moved through Illinois on November 17, 2013. As a result of the storms, there have been confirmed fatalities, personal injuries, widespread property damage, and power outages throughout the State. The early damage reports indicate that the hardest hit areas include Champaign, Grundy, LaSalle, Massac, Tazewell, Washington and Woodford Counties.

In the interest of aiding the people of Illinois and the local governments responsible for ensuring public health and safety, I hereby proclaim that a disaster exists within the State of Illinois, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/7, specifically declare Champaign, Grundy, LaSalle, Massac, Tazewell, Washington and Woodford Counties as disaster areas.

This gubernatorial proclamation of disaster will aid the Illinois Emergency Management Agency in coordinating State resources to support local governments in disaster response and recovery operations, including, but not limited to, emergency purchases necessary for response and other emergency powers as authorized by the Act. This includes the suspension of provisions of the Illinois Procurement Code that would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the disaster. In addition, this proclamation can facilitate a request for Federal disaster assistance if a complete and comprehensive assessment of damage indicates that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments.

Pat Quinn
Governor

Date: November 17, 2013
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