



HENRY McMASTER
GOVERNOR

June 21, 2024

Mr. Ed Fears, Acting Director
Office of Disaster Assistance
Field Operations Center East
U.S. Small Business Administration
101 Marietta Street NW, Suite 700
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2725

Dear Mr. Fears:

On June 10, 2024, severe weather that included significant straight-line winds, large hail, and heavy rain caused significant damage to homes and businesses in Berkeley County, South Carolina. The National Weather Service conducted a damage survey after the storm, which indicated that downburst winds reached 80–85 mph and covered a path that was approximately a half-mile wide. The winds caused downed trees, damage to residences and businesses, power outages, and large amounts of debris on roadways in Berkeley and Dorchester counties. Local and state government agencies and voluntary organizations active in disaster (VOADs) responded to support affected residents.

A Small Business Administration (SBA) damage survey was requested for Berkeley County on June 13 and was conducted on June 18. Based on the results of the damage survey, I certify that there are at least 25 homes and businesses in Berkeley County that have sustained a minimum of 40% uninsured or underinsured loss. Loss verification with the SBA team confirmed 38 residences with major damage and 31 with minor damage. Two businesses were validated as having major damage and five having minor damage. A copy of the SBA Survey Recap is enclosed herewith for ease of reference.

Based on results of the SBA damage survey, I respectfully request that the SBA declare Berkeley County a disaster area and implement the SBA's Disaster Loan Program. The State does not plan to request a major disaster declaration for Individual Assistance (IA) under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

Mr. Ed Fears, Acting Director

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Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and your continued assistance to the State of South Carolina. Should you have any questions or concerns or need any additional information or documentation regarding this matter, please contact South Carolina Emergency Management Division Director Kim Stenson at 803-737-8566.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Henry McMaster". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "H" and a long, sweeping underline.

Henry McMaster

Enclosure

SBA Survey Recap, Berkeley County, June 18–20, 2024

SBA SURVEY RECAP: Final Summary Report_State of South Carolina

State/SBA Ground Survey

Event: Severe Weather
 ULP: SC-20006
 Incident Date: 06/10/2024

Date of PDA Request: 06/13/2024
 Dates of PDA: 06/18/2024 - 06/20/2024

SBA Survey Team:
 Michael McCarty
 Kathleen Tara Deal

FEMAPDA: No
 SBA Only Survey: Yes

Overall Properties Affected

LV-Assigned	COUNTY	SURVEY Start Date	SURVEY End Date	MEETS SBA Criteria	Tribal	Majors	SURVEY Status	HOMES				BUSINESS/NON-PROFITS			
								MAJ	\$\$	MIN	\$\$	MAJ	\$\$	MIN	\$\$
Michael McCarty	Berkeley	06/18/2024	6/20/2024	Yes	No	35	Final	33	840,000	17	267,000	2	70,000	2	30,000
Kathleen Tara Deal	Berkeley	06/18/2024	06/20/2024	Yes	No	5	Final	5	27,000	14	240,000	0	0	3	30,000
	State Totals					40		38	867,000	31	507,000	2	70,000	5	60,000

COMMENTS: