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Governor Wolf Announces Federal Disaster Funding for October Flooding

Harrisburg, PA – Governor Tom Wolf today announced that the federal government has granted his request for federal disaster assistance to reimburse state agencies, county and municipal governments and other eligible private non-profits for costs associated with significant flash flooding in Bradford, Centre, Lycoming and Sullivan counties on Oct. 21, 2016.

“This flooding caused considerable damage to state and local infrastructure, and the financial impact would have caused significant strain on the communities and their economies,” said Governor Wolf. “This assistance will make a big difference in these communities that simply cannot absorb the cost of repairs.”

The overall estimated total costs associated with this major disaster declaration are \$33.2 million, which exceeds the commonwealth’s federally-established threshold of \$18.1 million. Federal reimbursement will cover up to 75 percent of county costs incurred on eligible expenses, such as costs associated with paying overtime, repairs to damaged public infrastructure, equipment rentals, materials, search and rescue operations, and opening and operating shelters. It is important to note that total costs may fluctuate as applications for assistance are reviewed at both the state and federal levels.

Over the coming weeks, staff from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency will hold meetings with applicants to thoroughly review all application documentation before forwarding it to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The process is expected to take several weeks, and all reimbursements are handled electronically.

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