Barr surveys flood damage in Estill County, asks for federal disaster aid

WASHINGTON,
DC--Kentucky's
Congressional
Delegation sent a joint
letter to President
Joe Biden in support
of Governor Andy
Beshear's request for a
federal Major Disaster
Declaration for the
Commonwealth of
Kentucky following
severe ice storms in
February that left behind
massive damage in
several counties.

"The arctic temperatures combined with the damaging ice and snow has caused dangerous road conditions, significant vegetative debris, power outages for more than 152,000 people, and interruption of water systems resulting in severe impacts to transportation, infrastructure, and property," Members stated in the letter. "On February 11, 2021, Governor Beshear issued a State of Emergency for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, but additional assistance is necessary at this time."

With dozens of families displaced by recent storms and

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that he attempted a few times to get the

limited state and local resources to repair and rebuild every community, the delegation expressed the dire need for prompt approval of federal aid. "Unfortunately,

other timately, six deaths have been confirmed due to the weather and road conditions across the Commonwealth. The citizens of Kentucky need federal resources to respond to these damaging events. For this reason, we urge you to also approve requests for assistance for those Kentuckians hit hardest

by these weather disasters. Access to this criffical federal assistance will help expedite the disaster relief efforts occurring across the Commonwealth," the letter stated.

The Governor is specifically requesting. Public Assistance for Bath, Boyd, Boyle, Breathitt, Carter, Casey, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Elliott, Estill, Fleming, Floyd, Garrard, Greenup, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Lewis, Lincoln, Madison, Magoffin,





Congressman Barr Visits Areas Damaged by Flooding

Congressman Barr visited Clark, Powell and Estill Counties shortly after the flooding occurred. Congressman Barr is pictured speaking with constituents and local leaders about the recovery efforts. Above, Barr is pictured with Michael Woolery, owner of Michael's Restaurant. At left are Barr and Estill County Sheriff Chris Flynn.

Marion, Martin,
McCreary, Menifee,
Mercer, Montgomery,
Morgan, Nicholas,
Nelson, Owsley,
Perry, Powell, Pulaski,
Rockcastle, Rowan,
Wayne, Whitley,
and Wolfe Counties
(44) and Hazard
Mitigation for the entire
Commonwealth.

As a result of severe

flooding only days later, Governor Beshear declared a second State of Emergency on March 1, 2021 and activated the Kentucky National Guard to assist with emergency rescues and other local needs. A second federal disaster declaration request will be required to activate federal assistance for the flooding damages.

