

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 08-2016**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING A DISASTER TO EXIST IN
GLACIER, LIBERTY, PONDERA, TETON, AND TOOLE COUNTIES
WITHIN THE STATE OF MONTANA**

WHEREAS, On April 15, 2016, a winter storm with high winds coupled with freezing rain and heavy snow broke over 750 power poles and lines across the North Central portion of Montana;

WHEREAS, the County of Pondera and the City of Conrad have declared emergency declarations and activated the applicable parts of their emergency plans and programs;

WHEREAS, the customers of Glacier Electric Coop, Hill County Electric Cooperative, Marias River Electric Cooperative, and Sun River Electric Cooperative were without power for up to five days;

WHEREAS, the snow and ice storm had caused road closures, debris on the city and county roads, road damage, and damage to electrical infrastructure owned by cooperatives;

WHEREAS, county road personnel established road blocks due to poles and debris blocking many of the roads throughout the counties;

WHEREAS, the City of Conrad had roads blocked with debris from the storm;

WHEREAS, the immediate restoration of electrical power was and is essential to ensure the health, safety and welfare of residents of the affected counties;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned electrical cooperatives have expended considerable amounts of resources and manpower and have taken all possible actions to respond, mitigate, repair and alleviate the situation;

WHEREAS, Montana will be requesting federal disaster assistance on behalf of the affected counties and electrical cooperatives; a state declaration is necessary before the request can be submitted; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation of a disaster authorizes the Governor under Section 10-3-311, MCA, to expend funds from the general fund to meet contingencies and needs arising from these conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor under the Constitution of the State of Montana, Title 10,

Chapter 3, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby declare that a disaster exists in Glacier, Liberty, Pondera, Teton, and Toole Counties within the State of Montana.

This Order is effective April 15, 2016.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 12th day of May 2016



STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:



LINDA MCCULLOCH, Secretary of State