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ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND THE INTERNET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
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June 8, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

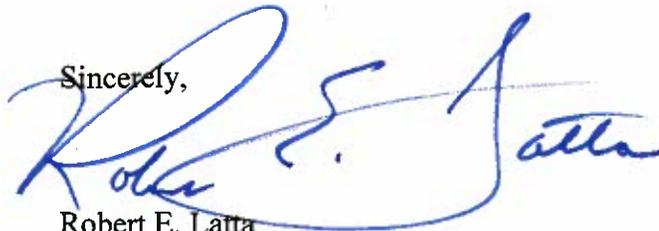
Dear President Obama,

As you are aware, during the late evening hours of June 5 and early morning hours of June 6, two tornados struck Northwest Ohio which caused great devastation and destruction. To date, there are five confirmed deaths and great loss of homes and businesses. I am requesting that you declare the areas of Wood and Fulton Counties as federal disaster areas as soon as possible so that federal resources can begin reaching these communities.

The devastation and destruction that these storms caused is completely dreadful for an area that is already struggling in this economic downturn and has been extremely hard hit with high unemployment. These storms completely wiped out over 50 homes, a high school, and a large township facility that also housed the police department and emergency responders. There are many needs that these counties will require as these individuals work to re-build their communities. We cannot delay in getting assistance from FEMA to Wood and Fulton Counties as soon as possible, and I request your assistance in declaring this area a federal disaster area.

I look forward to your response. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 225-6405 to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

REL/ahw

Cc: W. Craig Fugate, FEMA Administrator