

August 7, 2013

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley, Governor
State of South Carolina
Post Office Box 12267
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Governor Haley:

Periods of heavy rain throughout the state over the past several weeks have caused numerous road closures due to localized flooding and damage to transportation infrastructure. Heavy rains moved through Pickens County on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 resulting in severe damage to the bridge on S-160 (Jones Mill Road) over Six Mile Creek. This damage was due to extremely high flows and debris, which destroyed three of the six piles in one of the bridge's support structures causing partial collapse of the bridge (please see attached pictures). This road carries approximately 2,100 vehicles per day and the detour route is approximately 6.75 miles.

One hundred percent of the cost of emergency repairs and 80% of the permanent repair or replacement of the bridge could be eligible for reimbursement by the Federal Highway Administration using Emergency Relief (ER) Funds. This could be possible with your declaration as Governor that the event requires emergency action due to the damage sustained as a result of the localized flooding that has occurred as a result of the heavy rainfall.

I respectfully request that you make this declaration in order to allow the South Carolina Department of Transportation to apply for ER Funds to cover the majority of the cost to replace this bridge and to recover the cost of emergency work that was performed during the event to ensure the safety of the traveling public. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,


Robert J. St. Onge, Jr.
Secretary of Transportation

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