

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2026-04**

Whereas, The State of South Dakota has been impacted by a severe winter windstorm in the Black Hills area; and,

Whereas, The severe winter windstorm caused widespread debris removal operations and interrupted the normal flow of emergency traffic; and,

Whereas, This storm caused unexpected costs for emergency and permanent repairs for public infrastructure; and,

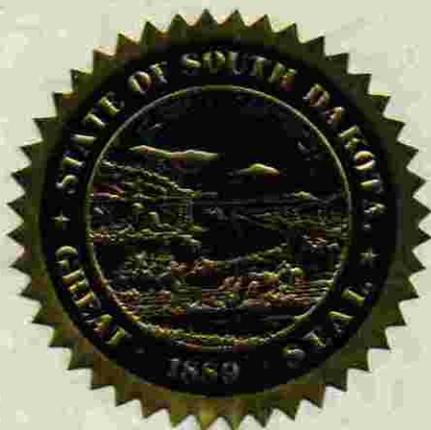
Whereas, A state of emergency was declared by Executive Order 2026-01; and,

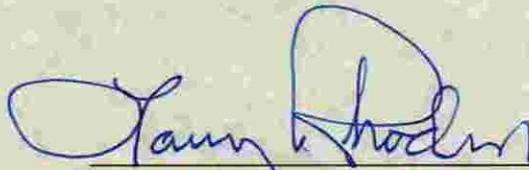
Whereas, Federal, State, and local officials have assessed the damage to public infrastructure and have verified the damage reported by local governments:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LARRY RHODEN, Governor of the State of South Dakota, under provisions of SDCL 34-48A, otherwise known as the Emergency Management law, do hereby declare a disaster to exist in the counties of Custer, Fall River, and Pennington.

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED, Federal resources are needed to help alleviate the impacts of severe storms for local governments in South Dakota.

Dated in Pierre, South Dakota this 27th day of January, 2026.





Larry Rhoden
Governor

Attest:



Monae L. Johnson
Secretary of State