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2 STATE OF MONTANA  
3 OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
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5 Executive Order No. 7- 05  
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8 EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING A DISASTER TO EXIST IN BLAINE,  
9 PHILLIPS, McCONE, GARFIELD AND PRAIRIE COUNTIES, WITHIN THE  
10 STATE OF MONTANA  
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13 WHEREAS, On April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005, a spring storm with wind gusts of up to 85 mph  
14 coupled with heavy sleet and freezing rain, broke hundreds of power poles and lines across the  
15 north central and central portions of Montana; and

16 WHEREAS, the loss of electrical power affected in excess of 1,500 customers for up to 7  
17 days; and

18 WHEREAS, the damage to electrical cooperatives infrastructure affected the customers  
19 of Hill County Electrical Cooperative, Big Flat Electrical Cooperative, and the McCone County  
20 Electrical Cooperative; and

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

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

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

29 NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor of the State of Montana,  
30 pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor under the Constitution of the State of  
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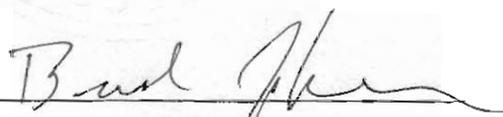
1 Montana, and the laws of Montana including Title 10, Chapter 3, et. seq. MCA, do hereby  
2 declare that a disaster exists in Blaine, Phillips, McCone, Garfield, and Prairie Counties within  
3 the State of Montana.

4 This order is effective retroactive to April 9, 2005.

6 Given under my hand and the GREAT SEAL  
7 Of the State of Montana, this 2nd day of May 2005.

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11 BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

12 Attest:

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14 \_\_\_\_\_  
15 BRAD JOHNSON, Secretary of State