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July 11, 2011

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20528

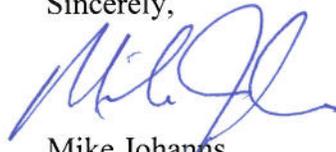
Dear Secretary Napolitano:

In light of your upcoming visit to Minot, North Dakota to survey flooding in the surrounding communities, I would respectfully ask that you also consider visiting the flood damaged areas and communities in Nebraska. I have visited the flood-affected areas several times in recent weeks to see the impact and to speak with Nebraskans who are directly impacted by the flood. There is simply no substitute for seeing firsthand the damage and hardship many Nebraskans now face.

There are many Nebraska communities facing flood waters. That said, I respectfully suggest that a visit to Omaha or South Sioux City might fit easily into your travel plans to North Dakota. If you are unable to spend time on the ground in Nebraska, I encourage you to consider an aerial tour following the Nebraska border along the Missouri River. This would provide you with a direct view of the enormous impact the flood has had on local communities. The full extent of the river's expansion as well as the high potential for communities to sustain dramatic losses is clear.

I appreciate your willingness to visit the flood affected regions along the Missouri River system. Your attention to this devastating flood is appreciated. If you or your staff have any questions regarding a potential Nebraska community visit, please feel free to call me at 202-224-4224 or have your staff contact my State Director, Nancy Johner, at 402-476-1400.

Sincerely,



Mike Johanns
United States Senator

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