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June 13, 2023

Anne Bink
Associate Administrator
Office of Response and Recovery
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C. Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20472

Through: Thomas Sivak, Regional Administrator FEMA, RV
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Anne,

On March 7, 2023, under the provisions of 44 C.F.R. §206.36(a), you granted the State of Ohio a 120-day extension to request a Major Disaster Declaration for damage occurring as a result of the train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, on February 3, 2023. This extension was granted to allow time to properly assess the impacts of the derailment.

At this time, there has not been a full resolution of the issues impacting East Palestine. Therefore, I hereby request an additional 120-day extension to submit a request for a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Ohio due to the train derailment in the Village of East Palestine in Columbiana County, Ohio, on February 3, 2023. This extension would allow the State of Ohio to continue its efforts to ensure that Norfolk Southern provides the impacted areas with the resources needed to recover from the event, including financial assistance, and to identify any gaps in areas of recovery where federal assistance may be needed.

In my original request for an extension, dated March 2, 2023 (attached to this letter), I provided an overview of the incident and actions taken by the State. The Ohio EMA continues to be involved in the response through its support of the Unified Command Group as a cooperating/assisting agency within the command and general staff structure and its engagement with the East Palestine Train Derailment Communications Working Group.

I have designated Sima S. Merick as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. She will work with FEMA and will provide further information or justification on my behalf.

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike DeWine".

Mike DeWine
Governor