

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 23, 2019

SD National Guard members activated to help provide water on Pine Ridge Reservation

WATERTOWN, S.D. – Gov. Kristi Noem has activated 13 members of the South Dakota Army National Guard to help distribute water to communities on the Pine Ridge Reservation after recent floodwaters have washed out a county rural waterline.

The Soldiers from Watertown-based Company A, 139th Brigade Support Battalion, will arrive today to provide drinkable water to those in need in the communities of Red Shirt, Pine Ridge, Porcupine, Evergreen and Wounded Knee.

The Soldiers will deploy with five Load Handling System vehicles equipped with five Compatible Water Tank Racks, or “Hippos.” The Hippo has the capability to receive, store and distribute up to 2,000 gallons of potable water per system.

The National Guard members will be providing water to the public from a central location in each community until the waterline is restored. Residents should bring with them plastic bottles, containers or receptacles to receive the water.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact the SDNG Public Affairs Office at (605) 737-6721 or e-mail ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil