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## STATE of MINNESOTA



## TIM PAWLENTY GOVERNOR



## PROVIDING FOR RELIEF FOR MOTOR CARRIERS OPERATING IN MINNESOTA



I, TIM PAWLENTY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this emergency executive order:

WHEREAS, the recent winter storm in Western Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota has resulted in widespread power outages which threaten life and property; and

WHEREAS, emergency assistance of motor carriers is needed to transport utility service materials including utility poles to communities in Western Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, to further relief efforts in Minnesota and the other states, local authorities and officials from South Dakota have requested that Minnesota waive application of certain weight and size limits in relation to motor carriers assisting in relief efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that:

- Divisible loads consisting of power poles, utility poles or communications poles will be allowed to exceed the legal weight limits defined in Minnesota Statutes, 2004, Sections 169.822 and 169.824 by up to ten percent (10%) for gross vehicle weight, single and axle group weights during the course of providing direct relief to affected communities in Western Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota that are without electric power.
- Non-divisible loads up to 10 feet wide and 14 feet high are exempt from obtaining permits required under Minnesota Statutes, 2004, Section 169.86.

- 3. Nothing herein shall be construed to relieve motor carriers and drivers from other applicable laws or regulations except where relief is provided by proper authority.
- 4. Utility service companies while operating under this order may not operate vehicles deemed to be unsafe upon the highways of Minnesota.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2004, Section 4.035, Subdivision 2, this executive order is effective immediately for those carriers providing direct assistance to the emergency relief effort and shall remain in effect until the conclusion of the emergency, but no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on December 14, 2005. Direct assistance to the emergency relief effort terminates when a motor vehicle is used for a purposes not dedicated to the relief effort.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this 30th day of November 2005.

TIM PAWLENTY

Governor

Filed According to Law:

Secretary of State