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STATE of MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE

TIM PAWLENTY GOVERNOR



DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 07-07

PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF FROM REGULATIONS TO MOTOR CARRIERS AND DRIVERS OPERATING IN MINNESOTA

I, TIM PAWLENTY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Minnesota Statutes, section 221.0269, do hereby issue this Emergency Executive Order:

WHEREAS, from approximately May 5 through May 19, 2007, a massive forest fire named the Ham Lake Fire raged through areas of Cook County, Minnesota, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Canada; and

WHEREAS, portions of the Gunflint Trail and surrounding areas were evacuated and more than 1,000 fire fighters were needed to battle the fire; and

WHEREAS, approximately 75,000 acres were burned and more than 130 structures were totally destroyed by the fire; and

WHEREAS, the fire caused significant damage to structures and the infrastructure, including electrical, telephone and other services to homes, cabins and businesses within Cook County; and

WHEREAS, efforts to restore infrastructure damaged by the fire is underway, relief from certain motor carrier restrictions is now necessary to restore infrastructure services in a timely manner in the affected area.

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby declare that:

1. A state of emergency exists in Minnesota that requires relief from regulations incorporated in Minnesota Statutes, section 221.0314, subdivision 9, pertaining to

hours of service for carriers and drivers of commercial motor vehicles, while engaged in relief efforts to restore telephone service and other infrastructure within Cook County.

- 2. Nothing herein shall be construed as to relieve motor carriers and drivers from regulations pertaining to qualifications of drivers, driving of commercial motor vehicles, commercial drivers' licenses, drug and alcohol testing and use, or financial responsibility.
- 3. No motor carrier operating under the terms of this emergency order shall require or allow a fatigued or ill driver to operate a motor vehicle. A driver who informs a carrier that he or she needs immediate rest shall be given at least eight consecutive hours off-duty before the driver is required to return to service.
- 4. Upon the expiration date of this emergency order, or when a driver has been relieved of all duty and responsibility to provide direct assistance to the emergency effort, a driver that has had at least 34 consecutive hours off-duty shall be permitted to start his or her on-duty status hours of service record at zero.

This order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until12:00 p.m. CDT July 11, 2007, unless superseded or extended under Minnesota statutes, section 221.0269, subdivision 2.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this 11th day of June, 2007.

TIM PAWLENTY Governor

Filed According to Law:

Mark Kitchie

MARK RITCHIE Secretary of State