

STATE of MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE



DEPARTMENT

TIM PAWLENTY
GOVERNOR

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 07-09

DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

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

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2007 at approximately 6:05 pm, the Interstate 35W bridge spanning the Mississippi collapsed totally destroying the bridge; and

WHEREAS, the catastrophic collapse of the bridge caused significant injuries and loss of life; and

WHEREAS, the response to the collapse has involved City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, and other local, state and federal emergency response agencies; and

WHEREAS, significant local, state and federal resources are needed to continue recovery efforts, investigate the cause of the collapse and respond to the continuing needs of the victims of the collapse and infrastructure needs of the City of Minneapolis, the state and the nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that:

1. A peacetime emergency under Minnesota Statutes, Section 12.21 exists as a result of the collapse of the bridge effective 6:05 p.m. CST. The damage caused by the collapse of the bridge also meets the definition of a disaster as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Section 12.03, Subdivision 2.
2. The Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will open the State Emergency Operations Center and continue activation of the Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan, including the provision of on-site support and assistance to the affected local governments.

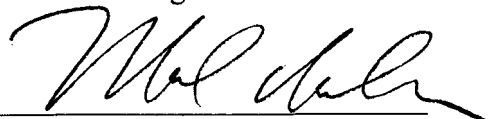
3. All state agencies are directed to provide the assistance necessary to help local, state and federal units of government respond to and recover from this emergency.
4. The extent of the damage to Interstate 35W, impact on the governments, employers, and residents of the city, county and state are severe and constitute an emergency contemplated by the terms of 23 U.S.C. 120(e) and 125.
5. Damage to Interstate 35W, a Federal aid highway, is extensive and significantly impairs the transportation infrastructure of the city, county and State such that immediate repairs and rebuilding are vital to the security, well-being, health and commerce of the residents of the State of Minnesota.
6. I request that the Secretary of Transportation, or other appropriate federal highway official, concur in the declaration of this emergency.
7. The Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and other state agencies are directed to work with local and federal officials to determine the need for supplemental federal assistance and take all actions necessary to obtain needed assistance.
8. All state agencies are directed to provide support, assistance and cooperation as requested by the National Transportation Safety Board, which has been identified as the lead agency investigating the cause of the bridge collapse.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2006, 4.035, Subdivision 2, this emergency executive order shall be effective immediately and will remain in effect until the conclusion of the emergency.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this 2nd day of August, 2007.


TIM PAWLENTY
Governor

Filed According to Law:


MARK RITCHIE
Secretary of State



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2007 at approximately 6:05 pm, the Interstate 35W bridge spanning the Mississippi collapsed, totally destroying the bridge; and

WHEREAS, the catastrophic collapse of the bridge caused significant injuries, loss of life, damage to private property and the State's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the continuing response to the collapse has involved local, state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, significant local, state and federal resources are needed to continue recovery efforts, investigate the cause of the collapse, respond to the needs of the victims of the collapse, provide for alternative transportation methods and routes, and to initiate the actions needed to remove debris, and begin the rebuilding process; and

WHEREAS, the need for the state to provide emergency relief services will continue for more than 5 days and it is, therefore, necessary for the Executive Council to extend the state of emergency pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 2006, Section 12.31, Subdivision 2.

RESOLVED, by the Executive Council of the State of Minnesota, at its meeting on August 6, 2007, that the peacetime emergency declared in Executive Orders 07-09 is extended for 30 days and will continue in effect pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2006, Section 12.31, Subdivision 2.



Executive Secretary
State Executive Council

Filed According to Law



MARK RITCHIE
Secretary of State

