## STATE OF MINNESOTA

### **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**



#### **Emergency Executive Order 15-06**

# Providing for Relief from Regulations to Certain Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota

**I, Mark Dayton, Governor of the State of Minnesota**, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

Whereas, on March 5, 2015, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Minnesota Board of Animal Health confirmed the presence of highly pathogenic H5N2 avian influenza in a commercial turkey flock in Minnesota, and since then the disease has been identified in nine different locations across the state;

Whereas, it is urgent that immediate action be taken to prevent further economic hardship in the state's turkey industry;

Whereas, unaffected farms need feed and water transported to healthy flocks;

Whereas, emergency operation equipment will likely be exposed to H5N2 avian influenza while responding to affected sites and a reduced number of trips to poultry farms further tightens statewide biosecurity which is critical to lowering the risk that the virus could be introduced to non-infected farms;

Whereas, the seasonal load restrictions, as described in Minnesota Statutes, section 169.87, are currently in effect in the entire state; and

Whereas, the USDA has identified that the increased number of trips resulting from seasonal load restrictions, specifically for poultry feed trucks, poultry load-out trailers, and emergency operation equipment used for highly pathogenic avian influenza response, could potentially spread H5N2 avian influenza.

#### Now, Therefore, I hereby order that:

1. A state of emergency exists in Minnesota, and poultry feed trucks, poultry load-out trailers, and emergency operation equipment used for highly pathogenic avian influenza response, be exempted from the seasonal load restrictions on local and state highways and streets, imposed in Minnesota Statutes, section 169.87, while responding to the emergency.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 4.035, subdivision 2, this Order is effective immediately and must be filed with the Secretary of State and published in the State Register as soon as possible after its issuance. This order shall remain in effect until June 1, 2015, or until the conclusion of the emergency.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

Mark Dayton

Governor

Filed According to Law

**Steve Simon** 

Secretary of State

