

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



Governor Tim Walz

Emergency Executive Order 19-31

Providing for Emergency Relief from Regulations to Motor Carriers Operating in Minnesota

I, Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following Executive Order:

Winter Storm Wesley brought heavy snowfall, strong winds and blizzard-like conditions to several states throughout the Plains and Upper Midwest regions. Much of Minnesota has been impacted by the storm; resulting in road closures and damage to the electrical distribution system causing widespread power outages.

The citizens of approximately 20 counties in Southern Minnesota are without power. The resources of the state are being fully utilized to respond to the emergency, to protect the health and safety of persons in the affected areas and to protect property and infrastructure from additional damage.

The Federated Rural Electric Cooperative in Southern Minnesota has requested mutual aid assistance from the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives to assist in repair and restoration of the power grid in the impacted counties.

On April 11, 2019, Emergency Executive Order 19-30 was issued, declaring a Peacetime State of Emergency in Minnesota; requesting assistance from the Minnesota National Guard; activating the Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's State Emergency Operations Center; and implementing the Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan.

For these reasons, I order that:

1. The requirements for interstate vehicle registration and reciprocity in Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 168.187, the fuel tax requirements in Minnesota Statutes 2018, chapter 168D, and the registration requirements in Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 221.60 are hereby suspended throughout the duration of a motor carrier's direct assistance to emergency relief efforts and until assisting carriers and vehicles have returned to their base state.

2. In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 390.23, the requirements contained in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, title 49, parts 390-399 do not apply to those interstate carriers who are providing direct assistance for the immediate restoration of essential electrical power. The relief from the Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, parts 390-399 provided in this order is valid for the duration of a motor carrier's direct assistance to the emergency relief effort or the duration of this order, whichever is less.
3. Motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance to the emergency relief effort and operating under the terms of this order must comply with the following Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations: title 49, part 392.2 related to the operation of a commercial motor vehicle in accordance with state laws and regulations, including compliance with applicable speed limits and other traffic restrictions; title 49, part 392.3 prohibiting an ill or fatigued driver from operating a commercial motor vehicle; and title 49, parts 392.4 and 392.5 prohibiting a driver from operating under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or operating while in possession of a controlled substance or alcohol.
4. Nothing contained in this Emergency Executive Order relieves drivers or carriers from the regulations and requirements pertaining to controlled substances and alcohol use and testing, commercial drivers' licenses, financial responsibility (insurance), transportation of hazardous materials, applicable size and weight limits, or any other portion of the regulations not specifically authorized pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 390.23.

This Executive Order is effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 4.035, subdivision 2. It will remain in effect for 30 days, or until the direct assistance has ended, whichever occurs earlier. For purposes of this Executive Order, direct assistance to an emergency relief effort terminates when a driver or commercial motor vehicle is used to transport cargo not destined for the emergency relief effort, or when the carrier dispatches that driver or vehicle to another location for operations in regular commerce.

Signed on April 12, 2019.



Tim Walz
Governor

Filed According to Law:



Steve Simon
Secretary of State

