



STATE of MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

Executive Order 25-14

Providing for Emergency Relief to Motor Carriers and Drivers Transporting Propane and Diesel 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:

The federal government failed to release funds for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program on time, resulting in elevated demand and increased propane and diesel fuel deliveries in December. Approximately ten percent of Minnesota households, or over 200,000 homes, use propane gas as their primary heating fuel. With the onset of winter and extremely cold temperatures over the past month, demand for propane and diesel fuel is high across the country, resulting in low inventory throughout the Midwest. Additionally, several terminals have reported a complete lack of no. 1 diesel fuel. It may take a month, or longer, to get supply and inventory levels back to normal due to the federal government's delays.

Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0314, subdivision 9, adopts federal safety regulations, including hours of service requirements for drivers. Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0269, provides: "The governor may declare an emergency and grant relief from any of the regulations incorporated in section 221.0314 to carriers and drivers operating motor vehicles in Minnesota to provide emergency relief during the emergency."

Reliable access to propane and diesel will be critical to the safety of Minnesotans in the cold weeks and months ahead. Temporary relief is needed to allow for the continued movement of these fuels, as carriers and drivers provide necessary and time-sensitive assistance to our state. Strict enforcement of certain hours of service regulations would prevent or hinder the efficient transportation of these essential supplies.

For these reasons, I order as follows:

1. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0269, subdivision 1, a state of emergency exists in Minnesota that requires relief from regulations incorporated in Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0314, subdivision 9, pertaining to hours of service for motor carriers and drivers of commercial motor vehicles providing direct assistance to emergency relief efforts by transporting propane or diesel fuel.
2. Motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance to the emergency relief efforts by transporting propane or diesel fuel are exempted from paragraphs (b) and (c) under the

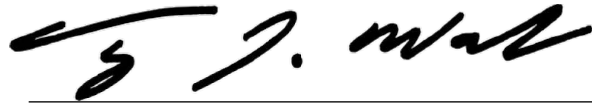
Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 395.3, incorporated in Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0314, subdivision 9, pertaining to hours of service.

3. Nothing in this Executive Order may be construed to relieve motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance to the emergency relief efforts by transporting propane or diesel fuel from the requirements under paragraph (a) of the Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 395.3, incorporated in Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0314, subdivision 9, which states, in part, that a driver may drive only 11 hours during a period of 14 consecutive hours after coming on duty following 10 consecutive hours off duty.
4. This Executive Order does not relieve motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance to emergency relief efforts from regulations pertaining to driver qualifications; driving of commercial motor vehicles; commercial driver's licenses; drug and alcohol testing for drivers; or equipment, parts, and accessories necessary for the safe operation of vehicles.
5. A motor carrier operating under the terms of this Executive Order must not require or allow a fatigued or ill driver to operate a commercial motor vehicle. A driver who informs a carrier that they need immediate rest must be given at least 10 consecutive hours off duty before the driver is required to return to service.
6. Upon the expiration of this Executive Order, or when a driver or motor carrier has been relieved of all duty and responsibility to provide direct assistance to the emergency relief efforts, a driver must take at least 34 consecutive hours off duty.
7. For purposes of this Executive Order, and as defined in Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 221.0269, subdivision 3, paragraph (c), 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 to begin operations in commerce.

This Executive Order is effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 4.035, subdivision 2, and it will remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or January 22, 2026, whichever occurs first.


A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on December 23, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Walz", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Walz, GOVERNOR

Filed According to Law:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Simon", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Simon, SECRETARY OF STATE

Filed December 23, 2025
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State
Steve Simon