**STATE OF MINNESOTA** 

Executive Department



## **Emergency Executive Order 24-03**

## Providing for Relief from Regulations to Certain Motor Carriers and Drivers 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:

Around one third of Minnesotans and more than 600,000 homes and businesses in the state rely on septic systems to treat their wastewater. Properly functioning septic systems are critical to preventing adverse public health, water quality, and environmental impacts.

This year's lack of snow cover, the influx of owners returning to their seasonal property earlier than normal, and recent freezing conditions have led to an increase in the need for emergency pumping services, especially in the northern half of the state.

Septic service companies have been inundated with emergency calls regarding pump failures and frozen septic systems. Removal of sewage from these failing or frozen septic systems, especially in emergency circumstances, is necessary for the proper maintenance and use of septic systems.

The seasonal load restrictions as described in Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 169.87 are still in effect in the central, north-central, and north zones. These seasonal weight restrictions on Minnesota roads will hinder the efficient removal of sewage from septic systems and increase the risk of harm caused by failing septic systems.

For these reasons, I order as follows:

1. A state of emergency exists in Minnesota, and vehicles used to pump or transport sewage from septic systems are exempted from the seasonal load restrictions on local and state highways and streets imposed in Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 169.87, subdivisions 1 and 2, while providing emergency septic system pumping services.

This Executive Order is effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 4.035, subdivision 2, and remains in effect until June 1, 2024, or all seasonal load restrictions have been lifted, whichever happens sooner.

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 April 5, 2024.

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Tim Walz Governor

Filed According to Law:

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**Steve Simon** Secretary of State

Filed April 5, 2024 Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon