

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
PROCLAMATION

DR 21-17

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME -- GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: On or about December 10 and 11, 2021, severe storms and straight-line winds struck various areas of the State and have since limited commercial vehicles from accomplishing their designated responsibilities of hauling heavy equipment, oversized loads, transformers, necessary hardware, and other transmission and distribution equipment to line crews for the purpose of restoring power to the citizens of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: Great hardship was brought upon business, citizens, and their public and private property within the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: There are numerous downed power lines, and it is important to maintain a safe distance from downed power lines and from the line crews and equipment restoring power to the citizens of the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: 49 CFR §390.23 authorizes the Governor of a State or Commonwealth to declare a regional emergency during the duration of emergency conditions, not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the initial declaration of emergency, and to exempt any motor carrier or driver operating a commercial vehicle to provide assistance in providing emergency relief during an emergency from 49 CFR §390 to §399.

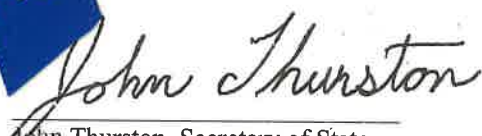
NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, acting under the authority vested in me under Act 511 of 1973, as amended, do hereby declare that a state of emergency exists in the State of Arkansas as applied to commercial vehicles hauling heavy equipment, oversized loads, transformers, necessary hardware, and other transmission and distribution equipment to line crews for the purpose of restoring power to the citizens of the State, and said state of emergency as well as the provisions of this Proclamation, shall exist and be in effect until such time as emergency conditions cease to exist.

FURTHERMORE, I, hereby invoke the emergency executive powers vested in me under Ark. Code Ann. §§12-75-101 et seq., as amended, and suspend all provisions of regulating statutes prescribing procedures for the conduct of the State Office of Purchasing, the Arkansas Building Authority, the State Office of Personnel Management, and all other State departments and agencies to render maximum assistance to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management relative to the removal of any potential impediment to the rapid and orderly remediation of the disposal site and to rendering of assistance to political subdivisions.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed on this 11th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2021.




Asa Hutchinson, Governor


John Thurston, Secretary of State