Declaring a State of Peacetime Emergency in the State of Minnesota

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

Whereas, on January 27, 2014, persistent and repetitive extreme arctic cold weather conditions are prolonging shortages and interruptions in the availability of propane and other home heating fuels throughout the state; and

Whereas, the limited availability of propane and resultant increases in prices are making propane unaffordable for many Minnesotans; and

Whereas, an increasing number of households, farms, businesses, and other enterprises are at significant risk of running out of heating fuel, posing an immediate threat to human life and public welfare; and

Whereas, local government resources are inadequate to handle the emergency; and

Whereas, the resources of local, county, and state governments have been fully utilized to ensure an adequate response to protect the life and safety of persons in the affected areas, including all the counties of Minnesota; and

Whereas, on January 7, 2014, Minnesota Department of Transportation Commissioner Charles Zelle extended Executive Order 13-14, granting hours of service relief to motor carriers and drivers transporting propane to affected areas of the state and providing direct assistance for emergency relief; and
Whereas, on January 19, 2014, the United States Department of Transportation declared an emergency, and extended State Regional Emergency Declarations to continue hours of service relief to Midwestern states, including Minnesota, to support the delivery of home propane and home heating fuels; and

Whereas, the Minnesota Department of Commerce has taken the necessary steps to increase the maximum LIHEAP crisis benefits from $500 to $1,000 for applicants heating their homes with propane or heating oil.

Now, Therefore, I hereby order that:

1. A state of peacetime emergency exists pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 12.31.

2. The Department of Public Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will activate the Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan, continue the provision of on-site support and assistance to the affected local governments, and determine the need for supplementary disaster aid.

3. State agencies are directed to provide necessary assistance to help local units of government respond to and recover from this emergency.

4. The Adjutant General of Minnesota order to state active duty on or about January 27, 2014, in the service of the State, such personnel and equipment of the military forces of the State as required and for such period of time as necessary to provide assistance and emergency relief services.

5. The Adjutant General is authorized to purchase, lease, or contract for goods and services necessary to accomplish the mission.

6. The cost of subsistence, transportation, fuel, pay, and allowances of said individuals shall be defrayed from the general fund of the State, as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, sections 192.49, subdivisions 1 and 2; 192.52; and 192.54, and as otherwise permitted by law.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 4.035, subdivision 2, this Emergency Executive 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 peacetime emergency shall remain in effect for five days, unless extended in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 12.31, subdivision 2.
In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand on this 27th day of January, 2014.

Mark Dayton
Governor

Filed According to Law

Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State