EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 9

1. By virtue of authority vested in me as state planning officer by Laws of Minnesota 1965, Chapter 685, as amended by Chapter 898, I hereby direct that the following Planning Area and Economic Region delineation be used for purposes of the comprehensive statewide planning program through December 31, 1968:

Planning Area A - Region 1 (Northwest) consisting of Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, and Mahnomen Counties.

Region 2 (North) consisting of Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, and Koochiching Counties.

Planning Area B - Region 3 (Northeast) consisting of Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, Cook and Carlton Counties.

Planning Area C - Region 4 (West) consisting of Norman, Clay, Becker, Wilkin, Otter Tail, Grant, Douglas, Traverse, Stevens, and Big Stone Counties.

Planning Area D - Region 5 (North Central) consisting of Cass, Wadena, Crow Wing, Todd, Morrison and Aitkin Counties.

Region 7 (Central) consisting of Mille Lacs, Kanabec, Pine, Isanti, Chicago, Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, Meeker and Wright Counties.

Planning Area E - Region 6 (West Central) consisting of Pope, Swift, LacQuiParle, Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Kandiyohi, Renville, and Redwood Counties.

Region 8 (Southwest) consisting of Lincoln, Lyon, Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, and Martin Counties.

Planning Area F - Region (South Central) consisting of McLeod, Sibley, Nicollet, Brown, LeSueur, Rice, Watonwan, Blue Earth, Waseca, and Faribault Counties

Region 10 (Southeast) consisting of Goodhue, Wabasha, Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore and Houston Counties.
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Planning Area G - Region 11 (Metropolitan) consisting of Anoka, Ramsey, Washington, Hennepin, Carver, Scott, and Dakota Counties.

2. Provisions of this order relate only to statewide comprehensive planning projects to be carried on by, or to be coordinated by, the state planning agency. It is not applicable (except when voluntarily adopted by individual state agencies) to: (a) administrative regions now being used by any state agency for purposes of its own functional or program planning; and (c) regional breakdowns now being used by any state agency for collection and analysis of statistical data.

3. Purpose of this order is to provide, on a trial basis, pilot Planning Areas and Economic Regions through which the state planning agency, in cooperation with other state agencies, may focus statewide planning on regional and local development problems. It will also provide a means for testing, in the light of day-to-day practical problems, the adequacy and relevance of the regional approach in relating statewide planning to local situations. Finally, it will permit testing of the applicability of economic regions in terms of their boundaries and their size.

The eleven regions set forth in this order were developed by the University of Minnesota as the product of a comprehensive research effort.

Delineations were made on the basis of economic, social, and governmental criteria which indicated characteristics or "profiles" common to various sections of the state. This work was then reviewed by several state and federal agencies. During this review reservations were voiced to the number of regions, and as a result the economic regions were aggregated into the planning areas indicated.

During the next year, as part of the planning agency's 1967-68 work program, these areas will be evaluated and, as necessary, revised. After this process has been completed, appropriate action will be taken to bring about establishment of regional entities which can be used for statewide functional and program planning purposes; for aggregation of statistical data; for local inter-governmental cooperation; and, to the greatest possible extent, for administrative purposes.

It is recognized, however, that no single set of regions can now, or ever, serve as a framework for program analysis and action for every purpose. Nevertheless, it is clear that a common framework is needed for study and solution of local problems and for providing effective mechanisms for local cooperation and inter-action.
STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ST. PAUL 55101

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4. All state agencies are hereby directed to work with the state planning agency, as appropriate, in testing, evaluating and refining the regional delineations as set forth herein.

Harold LeVander
GOVERNOR

Dated this 13th day of November 1967

Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State