WHEREAS, since mid-November 1996, continuing severe winter storms have affected the entire state of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, this ongoing weather crisis has affected the ability of farmers to transport their harvest; and

WHEREAS, it is urgent that immediate action be taken to avoid economic loss and to protect the economic health and safety of Minnesota citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that a State of Emergency exists in Minnesota and do direct the Commissioner of Transportation, with respect to state and local highways, to authorize the transport of sugar beets in excess of the gross weight seasonal weight limitations governed by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 169.825 and other applicable statutes.
The authority to transport in excess of these provisions, in addition to any limitations prescribed by the Commissioner of Transportation, is subject to the following restrictions:

1. This authority permits only permits movement of sugar beets up to a 92,000 pound limit.

2. Only hauls from field storage yards and areas to processing plants is allowed under this authority.

3. The Commissioner of Transportation, in coordination with local transportation authorities and engineers, may exempt certain roads and bridges from this authority.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 4.035, subd. 2, this Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until March 1, 1997, or is rescinded by proper authority.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this seventeenth day of January, 1997.

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor

Filed According to Law:

JOAN ANDERSON GROWE
Secretary of State