STATE OF MINNESOTA
Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

Emergency Executive Order 20-31

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:

The COVID-19 pandemic presents an unprecedented challenge to our State. Minnesota has taken proactive steps to ensure that we are ahead of the curve on COVID-19 prevention and response. On March 13, 2020, I issued Executive Order 20-01 and declared a peacetime emergency because this pandemic, an act of nature, threatens the lives of Minnesotans, and local resources are inadequate to address the threat. In Executive Order 20-01, I directed all state agencies to submit proposed orders and rules to protect and preserve public health and safety.

To help slow the community spread of COVID-19, Minnesotans are spending more time at home, including teleworking and engaging in distance learning. Many residential septic systems are failing to keep up with increased usage. Septic service companies are receiving a high volume of calls from homeowners in need of emergency pumping services. Action must be taken to prevent endangering the health of Minnesotans that rely on septic systems to process wastewater from daily and essential household activities.

The seasonal load restrictions, as described in Minnesota Statutes 2019, section 169.87, subdivisions 1 and 2, went into effect on March 6, 2020 in the south, southeast and metro zones; on March 9, 2020 in the central zone; and on March 13, 2020 in the north and northcentral 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 or overused septic systems.

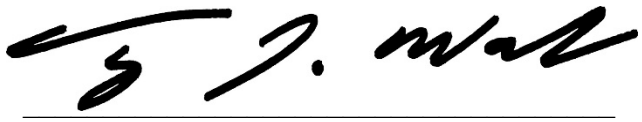
For these reasons, I order as follows:

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 roads imposed by Minnesota Statutes 2019, section 169.87, subdivisions 1 and 2, while providing emergency septic system pumping services.

This Executive Order is effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2019, section 4.035, subdivision 2. It will remain in effect until June 1, 2020.

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 8, 2020.



Tim Walz
Governor

Filed According to Law:

Steve Simon
Secretary of State

Filed on April 8, 2020
Office of the Minnesota
Secretary of State,
Steve Simon