

Media Room

EXECUTIVE ORDER #266

Proclamation of a State of Emergency Relating to the Transportation of Emergency Relief Supplies

WHEREAS, the Governor of Louisiana has declared a state of emergency due to the catastrophic damage to persons and property caused by Hurricane Gustav;

WHEREAS, this catastrophic damage creates a need to transport large amounts of emergency relief supplies (including food, clothing, fuel, building materials, and medical supplies) on Wisconsin highways; and

WHEREAS, allowing the transportation of overweight and oversize loads of emergency relief supplies, in a safe manner and as described in this order, will benefit persons injured by Hurricane Gustav;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM DOYLE, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this state, and specifically by Wis. Stat. § 166.03(1)(b)1, hereby declare the catastrophic damage caused by Hurricane Gustav to be a natural disaster causing indirect impact on the State of Wisconsin and hereby proclaim the State of Wisconsin to be in a state of emergency for a period of 30 days, unless such period is extended by joint resolution of the Legislature. Pursuant to said state of emergency, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this state, and specifically Wis. Stat. § 166.03(1)(b), I HEREBY ORDER THAT:

1. a. Notwithstanding chapter 348 of the Wisconsin Statutes, commercial motor carriers directly involved in providing emergency relief and assistance relating to the Hurricane Gustav disaster are allowed to transport loads of emergency relief supplies (including food, clothing, fuel, building materials, and medical supplies) even when such loads exceed the statutory size and weight limitations. However, vehicle operators must obey the conditions set forth in this order and must obey posted weight limits and temporary weight restrictions for bridges and highways.

b. Loads of relief supplies and equipment may be transported without obtaining an overweight or oversize permit from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation if:

(1) the maximum gross vehicle weight does not exceed 95,000 pounds;

(2) the maximum weight for axle and axle groups does not exceed 20,000 pounds for a single axle, 40,000 pounds for a two-axle group, or 48,000 pounds for an axle group of 3 or

more axles;

- (3) the vehicle width does not exceed 14 feet;
- (4) the vehicle height does not exceed 13 feet 6 inches;
- (5) the vehicle length does not exceed 75 feet; and
- (6) travel is exclusively on state, U.S., or interstate highways.

c. Vehicle operators must obtain oversize or overweight permits from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation under Wis. Stat. sections 348.26 or 348.27 for vehicle loads that exceed these dimensions or weight limits, but permit fees will be waived.

d. Vehicle operators must select routes with adequate vertical and horizontal clearance for safe operation, and must consult the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's on-line construction and work zone map at <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/road.workzones.htm>

e. Vehicles must be illuminated, flagged, signed, and rigged for safe operation at night and periods of darkness.

2. For divisible oversize and overweight loads only, this emergency authorization is not valid on any part of the national system of interstate and defense highways, except for that portion of USH 51 between Wausau and STH 78 and that portion of STH 78 between USH 51 and the Interstate 90/94 interchange near Portage, designated as Interstate 39. 23 U.S.C. § 127. Non-divisible oversize and overweight loads are authorized to use the national system of interstate and defense highways.

3. This order does not suspend the operation of any state or federal laws within the State of Wisconsin except as specifically described in the order. All other laws remain in full force and will be enforced. This order does not authorize the use of unregistered vehicles. If the vehicle is required to be registered by Wisconsin law, registration shall be at the actual gross vehicle weight or at the maximum available registration weight, whichever is less. Vehicles registered through the Unified Carrier Registration System (UCRS) are not required to provide proof of registration required by the UCRS in section 194.407, Wis. Stats., or 49 U.S.C. § 14504a. Vehicles registered in other states and not entitled to reciprocity, or not registered for use in Wisconsin through the International Registration Plan (IRP), are not required to obtain an IRP credential for all states as provided in section 341.41, Wis. Stats.; and are not required to have an International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) credential for all states. Vehicles registered in other states and not entitled to reciprocity, or not registered for use in Wisconsin through the IRP, or the IFTA, are not required to obtain a temporary fuel and registration permit (72-hour trip permit) pursuant to Ch. Trans 146, Wis. Admin. Code. Motor carriers hauling emergency relief supplies must have proper authority to operate in this State, as provided by section 194.04, Wis. Stats. Motor carriers must satisfy the insurance requirements of sections 194.41 or 194.42, Wis. Stats., but are not required to file a Form E as proof of insurance. Motor carriers must satisfy all applicable federal and Wisconsin requirements concerning vehicle equipment, vehicle operations and driver qualifications and conduct.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this fourth day of September in the year two thousand and eight.

JIM DOYLE
Governor
By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State
