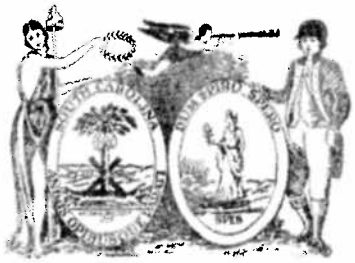
State of South Carolina

Executive Department

FILED

APR 10 2014

Mark Hammond
SECRETARY OF STATE 8



Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2014-24

WHEREAS, as a result of the winter storm, which occurred between February 11, 2014 and February 13, 2014, it is estimated that 1.5 million acres of forest and timber land across 24 counties have been significantly damaged, causing an immediate and direct loss of approximately $360 million to the State's economy; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to expedite the removal and delivery of the damaged timber to consuming manufacturers both inside and outside of the State of South Carolina in order to salvage, use, and market as much timber as possible as quickly as possible so as to minimize total waste and rottage of this valuable and perishable natural resource; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the public's health, safety, and welfare to reduce the risk of wildfire, disease, and insect infestation of residual standing timber; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 56-5-70(A) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, the Governor may suspend requirements relating to length, width, weight, load, and time of service for commercial and utility vehicles during a state of emergency and for thirty days thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2014-21, lifting the aforementioned restrictions, expires on April 12, 2014, yet there exists a continuous emergency in the State of South Carolina in response to the damage caused by the winter storm warranting the extension of the waiver of these restrictions for debris removal operations and for the timber industry at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of this State, I hereby suspend the requirements relating to length, width, weight, load, and time of service for commercial and utility vehicles carrying unmanufactured forest products, including but not limited to timber, timber byproducts, logs, woodchips, and vegetative debris, through and throughout South Carolina and direct the South Carolina Department of Transportation and the South Carolina Department of Public Safety, and the State Transport Police as needed, to comply with this order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

(a) Weight, height, length, and width for any such vehicle on roadways maintained by the State of South Carolina shall not exceed for continuous travel on all highway routes, including interstates, maximum dimensions of 12' wide, 13'6" high, and a gross weight of 90,000 pounds.

(b) Posted bridges may not be crossed.

(c) All vehicles shall be operated in a safe manner, shall not damage the highways nor unduly interfere with highway traffic, shall maintain the required limits of insurance, and shall provide appropriate documentation indicating it is responding to this emergency.

(d) Any dimensions and/or weight of vehicles that exceed the above must obtain a permit with defined routes from the South Carolina Department of Transportation Oversized/Overweight Permit Office. To order a permit, please call (803) 737-6769 during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., or (803) 206-9566 after regular business hours.

(e) Transporters are responsible for ensuring they have oversize signs, markings, flags and escorts as required in the South Carolina Code of Laws relating to oversize/overweight loads operating on South Carolina roadways.

FURTHER, nothing herein shall be construed as an exemption from the Commercial Driver's License requirements set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 383 or the financial requirements set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 387.

This Order takes effect upon the expiration of Executive Order 2014-21, which is set to statutorily occur at 11:59 p.m. on April 12, 2014, and will remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. on May 12, 2014.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 10th DAY OF APRIL, 2014.

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State