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EXECUTIVE ORDER

Declaring a Disaster Emergency Due to a Wildfire in Las Animas County

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, and in particular pursuant to relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, § 24-32-2100 *et seq.*, C.R.S., I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order declaring a state of disaster emergency.

1. Background & Need.

From June 22 to 26, 2000, a wildfire burned in Las Animas county's Pinon Canyon. The Pinon Canyon fire caused severe damage to and loss of property. The Pinon Canyon fire constituted a disaster for purposes of § 24-32-2103, C.R.S.

This disaster required extensive efforts by the federal, state, and local governments, the private and not-profit sectors, and the public. Extraordinary measures were necessary to protect the public health, ensure public safety and welfare, and render relief for those most severely impacted.

Accordingly, I hereby declare that a state of disaster emergency existed from June 22 to 26, 2000, and I hereby activate the State of Colorado Emergency Operations Plan.

2. Mission and Scope.

This Executive Order orders the following:

- A. The expenditure of up to \$145,292 from the State Disaster Emergency Fund to pay the cost of the fire suppression efforts.
 - i. 50 percent or \$72,646 of the State Disaster Emergency funds are to be given in the form of a grant; and
 - ii. 50 percent or \$72,646 of the State Disaster Emergency funds are to be given in the form of a low interest loan.

- B. All funds currently held in the State Disaster Emergency Fund shall remain within that fund beyond the termination of the state fiscal year on June 30, 2001, and shall remain within that fund until expended or until further Executive Order;
 - C. All previous and future verbal orders, until memorialized in a written order amending this Executive Order, which I may make in reference to this state disaster emergency shall have the full force and effect as if they were contained within this Executive Order.
3. Duration.

This Executive Order shall expire thirty (30) days from the date of its execution unless extended by Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and
the Executive Seal of the
State of Colorado this 21st
day of September, 2000.

Bill Owens
Governor