

STATE OF COLORADO

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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

D 2013-025

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Extending the Declaration of a Disaster Emergency Due to the Flooding in El Paso County

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant relevant portions of C.R.S. § 28-3-104 and relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order extending the declaration of a state of disaster emergency due to the flooding in El Paso County, Colorado, and making resources available to remove the flooding debris, provide flood emergency protective measures and address the disaster emergency.

I. Background and Purpose

The Governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters. The Colorado Disaster Emergency Act defines a disaster as “the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damages, injury or loss of life or property resulting from any natural cause or cause of human origin, including but not limited to . . . flood.” C.R.S. §24-33.5-703(3).

On August 16, 2013, I issued Executive Order D-2013-023, declaring a Disaster Emergency for flooding in El Paso County. Since that time, the area continued to receive significant rainfall, 13.34 inches for the period June 28 – August 25, 2013. Damages from the flooding continue to be assessed by FEMA, state, and local authorities. The original Executive Order expires on September 9, 2013, and therefore I am issuing this extension.

Consequently, the Colorado Department of Transportation implemented a short term weather monitoring and closure policy for Highway 24 for the duration of the rain season. Long term improvements to the highway are needed, including automated signing installation, culvert

clearing and repair, pipe replacement and enlargement, debris removal, and other infrastructure enhancements.

II. Declaration and Directives

- A. The El Paso County Flooding constitutes a disaster emergency under C.R.S. §§ 24-33.5-701, 705. My declaration of August 16, 2013, declaring a disaster emergency is hereby extended another thirty days by this Executive Order and shall have the full force and effect of law as if it were contained within this Executive Order. Executive Order D 2013-023 continues in full force except as amended here.
- E. For the purposes of sections 125 and 120(e) of Title 23 of the United States Code, I hereby find that the damage to El Paso County as a result of the flooding constitutes an emergency. The immediate repair to Highway 24 is vital to ensuring that necessary improvements are made to mitigate future similar incidents and provide for safe and reliable transportation for area residents. The Federal Highway Administration Colorado Division Administrator is requested to concur in the declaration of this emergency. This declaration shall permit the Colorado Department of Transportation to pursue federal transportation emergency relief funds, as is provided under the United States Code.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire thirty days from September 9, 2013, unless extended further by Executive Order.



GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this ninth day of
September, 2013.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John W. Hickenlooper".

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor