

STATE OF COLORADO

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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

D 2015-011

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Extending the Disaster Emergency Due to the Gold King Mine Incident and Resulting Impacts to Downstream Waters

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to 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 declaring a state disaster emergency due to the release of water containing potentially dangerous contaminants from the Gold King Mine.

I. Background and Purpose

The Governor is responsible for meeting dangers to the state and its 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 . . . hazardous substance incident, . . . or other water contamination requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage . . .” C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3).

Since I issued Executive Order D 2015-007 declaring a disaster emergency due to the Gold King Mine release, response and recovery operations related to the release continue. La Plata and San Juan Counties, the Southern Ute Tribe, the City of Durango, and Town of Silverton are still operating under local disaster emergency declarations and have requested that Executive Order D 2015-007 be extended.

II. Declaration and Directives

- A. Executive Order D 2015-007 is hereby extended.
- B. My verbal order of September 8, 2015 extending Executive Order D 2015-007 is hereby memorialized by this Executive Order and shall have the full force and effect of law as if it were contained within this Executive Order.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire thirty days from September 8, 2015, unless extended further by Executive Order.



GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this fourteenth day of
September, 2015

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

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor