

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A
LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE DIRECTOR OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY
OF NEVADA DUE TO THE LATE FEBRUARY
2023 SNOWSTORMS**

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 authorizes the proclamation of a local emergency by an official designated by ordinance adopted by the local governing body; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8558 states that a local emergency means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property caused by conditions including storms; and

WHEREAS, whenever a local emergency is declared by a local official designated by ordinance, said local emergency shall not remain in effect for more than seven (7) days unless it has been ratified by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, section A-III 2.6 of the County of Nevada Administrative Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Services of Nevada County to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency whenever the County is affected or likely to be affected by a local emergency and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2023, in the early morning continuing through the 28th of February, Nevada County was hit with an intense series of winter snow-storm (Snow-storm) systems bringing excessive amounts of snow to areas that typically receive little to no snow; and

WHEREAS, the Snow-storm caused over 20,000 Nevada County residents to lose PG&E utility power service with PG&E saying it could take multiple days for restoration; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Snow-storm numerous trees have been reported down across county roads, with many trees having attached utility power lines to them; and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous calls for service from local residents who have had trees land on their homes, are running out of heating gas, do not have electricity, or do not have firewood to heat their homes, resulting in the need for the County to open warming shelters; and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2023, at approximately 12:00 pm, Nevada County commenced emergency services opening its emergency operations center to respond to the community-wide emergency service needs; and emergency services beyond the immediate capabilities of local resources, services, personnel, equipment, and facilities;

and

WHEREAS, the conditions created by the Snow-storm are likely to be beyond the control, capacity, and resources of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril created by the Snow-storm constitute a local emergency and warranted and necessitated the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Nevada that as of March 1, 2023, a local emergency now exists in Nevada County as a result of the Snow-storms, which constitutes a substantial threat to the health and safety of thousands of residents across the County; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Office of Emergency Services of Nevada County shall be those prescribed by State law, and by ordinances, resolutions, and memorandums of understanding of Nevada County; and that this Emergency Proclamation shall expire seven (7) days after issuance unless this Emergency Proclamation is confirmed and ratified by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California, pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in Nevada County; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that response and recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

Dated: March 1, 2023

By: 

Craig Griesbach
Director of Emergency Services
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