



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2005-012

DECLARING A DISASTER IN TAOS COUNTY DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER

WHEREAS, Heavy precipitation and severe weather have impacted communities throughout Taos County beginning on February 19, 2005 and ending around February 22, 2005;

WHEREAS, roads and drainage systems throughout the county have been damaged or destroyed stranding some residents and making access and travel difficult and delaying or impeding access by emergency and utility personnel;

WHEREAS, Taos County activated an Emergency Operations Center to coordinate the response on February 22nd and has begun emergency measures to respond and repair damage;

WHEREAS, on February 28th 2005 Taos County declared through resolution 2005-14 a disaster exists and requested the assistance of the State;

WHEREAS, all available local and state resources may be insufficient to prevent damage from the results of this storm and subsequent damage to infrastructure will pose a significant threat to the health and safety of the citizens of, and visitors to the area, as well as to the economic base of the affected local governments; and

WHEREAS, this situation constitutes disaster with potentially catastrophic consequences.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILL RICHARDSON, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby declare a State of Disaster exists in Taos County due to heavy precipitation and severe weather and the resultant infrastructure damage.

I FURTHER DIRECT the Department of Finance and Administration to provide emergency financial resources in the amount of \$750,000 to the Department of Public Safety. The Office of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety is directed to coordinate all requests for assistance and responses to such requests under the authority of and as determined by the Governor or his Authorized Representative pursuant to and in accordance with Sections 6-7-1 through 6-7-3, NMSA 1978 and to request such aid and assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as may be appropriate.

I FURTHER DIRECT the Adjutant General to order into service any elements of the New Mexico National Guard as are or may be needed to provide military support to civil authorities as needed for this emergency. This action is pursuant to and in accordance with Sections 20-1-6 and 20-4-3.A. NMSA 1978. Such emergency assistance will be provided during the period of need at the discretion of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

I FURTHER DIRECT all Cabinet Departments and agencies of the State of New Mexico to provide any assistance that may be requested by the Office of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety or State Emergency Operations Center under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

THIS ORDER supersedes any other previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as the Governor rescinds it.

ATTEST:



REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 2005

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

