



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-079

AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DUE TO THE LAS TUSAS FIRE EVENT IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

WHEREAS, San Miguel County was severely impacted by the Las Tusas Fire Event that began on May 10, 2023;

WHEREAS, the Las Tusas Fire Event resulted from extreme drought conditions and high wind gusts, which caused it to spread across over 960 acres;

WHEREAS, the Las Tusas Fire Event caused the evacuation of residents from local communities;

WHEREAS, the local disaster declaration issued by San Miguel County notes that the damage caused by the Las Tusas Fire Event poses an imminent and proximate threat to public health from flooding and debris;

WHEREAS, the local disaster declaration issued by San Miguel County states that all local resources available have been insufficient to cope with the resulting situation, and therefore San Miguel County requests aid, assistance, relief programs, and funding from the State of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to authorize the release of additional emergency funds to protect public peace, health, and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico,

by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **DECLARE** a state of emergency to exist in San Miguel County due to the Las Tusas Fire Event due to the extreme drought conditions and high wind gusts that began on May 10, 2023, and **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. The Department of Finance and Administration shall make available emergency financial resources in an amount not to exceed seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 12-11-23 to -25, and NMSA 1978, Sections 12-10-14 to -15. The funds shall be expended for the resources and services necessary to avoid or minimize economic or physical harm until the situation becomes stabilized; on a temporary, emergency basis for lodging, sheltering, health care, food, any transportation or shipping necessary to protect lives or public property; or for any other action necessary to protect the public health, safety, welfare, and property. The funds shall be expended in accordance with the policy and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, as approved by the Governor or the Governor's Authorized Representative.

2. The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall coordinate all requests for assistance and responses to such requests under the authority of and as determined by the Governor and her Authorized Representative. In addition to such other eligibility criteria as may be established by the Governor and her Authorized Representative, applicants requesting financial assistance from the State for necessary action taken in response to the emergency shall be required to demonstrate that the cost of the necessary action exceeds their available resources, as determined based upon criteria developed in conjunction with the State agencies (if any) with financial and budgetary oversight responsibilities for the applicant.

3. The Adjutant General shall 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 NMSA 1978, Sections 20-1-1 to -8, NMSA 1978, Sections 20-2-1 to -8, and NMSA 1978, Sections 20-4-1 to -14. Such emergency assistance shall be provided during the period of need at the discretion of the Governor's Authorized Representative.


4. All Cabinet Departments and agencies under gubernatorial control shall provide any assistance that may be required by the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management or by the State Emergency Operations Center under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until all funds authorized pursuant to this Order are expended.

ATTEST:


MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 26TH DAY OF MAY 2023

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


MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

