



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY

**For Immediate Release**  
March 11, 2011

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### **DEQ issues Declaration of Emergency and Administrative Order due to recent severe weather**

**BATON ROUGE** – Today, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality published a Declaration of Emergency and Administrative Order in the wake of the tornados and severe weather that affected parts of southern Louisiana from March 5-11.

During that period, a severe weather system passed across southern Louisiana, bringing heavy rains, flooding, winds and tornado activity. One person was killed and twelve others were injured as a result, with extensive power outages and more than 150 homes and businesses damaged. Acadia, Terrebonne, Jefferson, St. Helena, Catahoula, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes were directly affected by the severe weather conditions.

Through executive proclamations, the Governor declared a state of emergency in Louisiana as a result of the weather event.

Under the authority of Louisiana Revised Statute 30:2033 and 2011(D)(6), DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch has declared that an emergency exists and that certain measures and provisions are necessary in order to prevent irreparable damage to human health and the environment.

The Emergency Declaration spells out provisions for debris removal related to the emergency situation. The full text of the Declaration of Emergency and Administrative Order can be found as an attachment to this news release at [www.deq.louisiana.gov](http://www.deq.louisiana.gov).