STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF
SEVERE STORMS AND TORNADOES
April 10, 2024

AGENCY INTEREST NO. 241849

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the authority granted to me by Louisiana Revised Statutes 30:2001 et seq., and particularly La. R.S. 30:2033 and 2011(D)(6), I hereby make the following findings, declaration and order:

FINDINGS AND DECLARATION

1. On the 10th day of April, 2024, severe storms, heavy winds and tornadoes (hereinafter “the EVENT”) moved into the Louisiana, causing widespread damage across the state. The storms generated significant storm debris.

2. I find that the EVENT created conditions that require immediate action to prevent irreparable damage to the environment and serious threats to life or safety. Therefore, I hereby declare that an emergency exist in the parishes of Acadia, Calcasieu, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, Point Coupee, St. Landry, and St. Tammany, and order the following measures be taken to prevent irreparable damage to the environment and serious threats to life or safety. This Order applies only to Acadia, Calcasieu, East Feliciana, West Feliciana, Point Coupee, St. Landry, and St. Tammany parishes which shall be known as the Emergency Area.
ORDER

§ 1. **Solid Waste Management**
   
a. State of Louisiana "Comprehensive Plan for Disaster Clean-up and Debris Management," (the Debris Management Plan)
When handling and managing wastes generated as a result of the EVENT, owners and operators of solid waste management facilities and local governments shall adhere to the Debris Management Plan except where the Debris Management Plan may be in conflict with the provisions of this Order, in which case the provisions of this Order shall prevail. The Debris Management Plan contains provisions and instructions for handling various types of waste material and for locating and receiving authorization for Emergency Debris Sites. A copy of the Debris Management Plan can be obtained via LDEQ’s website at the following link, [http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/disaster-debris-management](http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/disaster-debris-management).

b. Permitted Solid Waste Management Facilities
   
i. Owners and operators of solid waste management facilities permitted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality ("LDEQ" or "Department") before the EVENT are authorized to make all necessary repairs to restore essential services and the functionality of storm water management and leachate collection systems damaged by the EVENT, without prior notice to the Department. Within thirty (30) days of commencing the work of such repair or replacement, however, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing, describing the nature of the work, giving its location, and providing the name, address, and telephone number of the representative of the permittee to contact concerning the work.

   ii. Permitted facilities within or outside of the Emergency Area, which accept the EVENT-generated debris in accordance with the terms of this Order, may accept the EVENT-generated debris for disposal or storage without the need to first modify existing permits, as follows:
      
      (1). Prior notification is submitted to the Department describing any proposed deviations from permit conditions;

      (2). Any proposed deviations from permit limits must be within the bounds of engineering assumptions used in the design of the facility, and conducted in accordance with the Debris Management Plan; and
(3) Written approval by the Department (including electronic mail) of the proposed deviations is received.

   iii. Operators of permitted facilities may request extended hours of operation and increased solid waste acceptance rates to facilitate recovery and clean-up efforts. The Department may approve such requests for the duration of the Order without the need for a permit modification.

   iv. Operators of permitted facilities approved for permit deviations under this Order may be required to submit application for modifications of their existing permits to address any long-term impacts of accepting the EVENT-generated debris on operations and closure that are not addressed in existing permits if it is determined long-term impacts will result from these activities. Long-term impacts are those that will extend past the expiration date of this Order. The requests for modification shall be submitted no later than six (6) months after the date of this Order, unless otherwise extended by the Department. No permit fee will be required for any modifications necessitated solely by the clean-up activities resulting from the EVENT. The Department may, for good cause shown, issue a temporary authorization pursuant to LAC 33:VII.509.B.1.a for activities that are addressed in a permit modification request as provided for in this subsection, to authorize operations after expiration of this Order, pending a decision on the modification request.

   v. White goods (e.g., air conditioners, stoves, range tops, refrigerators and freezers from which food has been removed) shall be stored in an area separate from other solid wastes and in a manner that prevents vector and odor problems. No white goods may be stored in or on any permitted landfill cells that have not undergone final closure and have not received written authorization from the LDEQ specifically allowing storage in that area. All white goods shall be removed from the storage facility or staging area and sent offsite for recycling, or recycled onsite, within ninety (90) days of initial receipt at the site.

§ 2. Emergency Debris Sites

i. Upon the declaration of an emergency by LDEQ and the issuance of this Order, local governments and state agencies may "activate" a pre-approved emergency debris site. Upon activation, the governmental body shall notify LDEQ Headquarters via the
debris hotline (225-364-7901) that the site is being activated. This verbal notification shall occur as soon as practicable depending on communication capability.

Written notification (Written Notification of the Activation of Pre-Approved Emergency Site) shall be sent to the LDEQ Regional Manager and the LDEQ Headquarters within five (5) days of verbally activating the site, or as soon as mail delivery is possible. A copy of the form is contained in the Debris Management Plan or can be obtained via LDEQ’s website at the following link: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/disaster-debris-management.

LDEQ Headquarters address is as follows: Waste Permits Division, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313 or fax (225) 325-8236 or email degdebrisrequest@la.gov.

ii. New temporary emergency debris sites may be considered in accordance with procedures contained in the Debris Management Plan. Authorizations may be requested by providing a notice to the Department on approved forms (Emergency Debris Site Request Form). The request forms can be obtained via LDEQ’s website at the following link: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/disaster-debris-management.

New temporary emergency debris sites can be requested as follows:

(1). Emailing a completed request form to degdebrisrequest@la.gov;
(2). Faxing a completed request form to (225) 325-8236, or
(3). If a request form is not immediately available, the local government can call the emergency debris hotline at (225) 364-7901, and provide the information over the phone to receive verbal approval to stage. The verbal request shall be followed up with a written request as soon as possible after mail delivery is available but no later than 21 days after verbal approval is given.

iii. All temporary and activated pre-approved emergency debris sites accepting vegetative debris shall submit completed weekly debris management report (WDMR) forms to the Department each week, no later than Sunday, during operations until the debris site is completely closed or deactivated and the final report has been submitted in accordance with the Debris Management Plan. A copy of the WDMR form is contained in the Debris Management Plan or can be obtained via LDEQ’s website at the following link, http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/disaster-debris-management.
iv. Construction and demolition debris generated from residential structures of four units or less that are subject to a government-ordered demolition shall be disposed of in accordance with the Debris Management Plan except Regulated Asbestos Containing Material (RACM) shall be disposed of in a Type I/II landfill. A request by a landfill owner or operator for authorization to accept such RACM must include a certification that the owner or operator will manage the RACM in accordance with the landfill’s QA/QC plan and LDEQ requirements. The Department will provide a written response to the request for authorization to accept solid waste and asbestos containing material in a Type I or II landfill.

§ 3. Records Management

Copies of LDEQ documents are available online in LDEQ’s Electronic Document Management System (EDMS). The EDMS is available at http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov. Additional documents may be available by placing a Public Records Request using the online form at http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/prr or the printable paper form available at http://deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/General/PublicRecordsRequestForm.pdf. There is no charge to replace copies of documents destroyed by the EVENT. Please contact Records Management with any questions at (225) 219-3171 or degrecords@la.gov.

§ 4. General Conditions

a. This Order does not convey any property rights or any rights or privileges other than those specified in this Order.

b. This Order only serves as relief for the duration of this Order from the regulatory and proprietary requirements of the Department, and does not provide relief from the requirements of other federal, state, and local agencies. This Order therefore does not negate the need for the property owner or facility operator to obtain any other required permits or authorizations, nor from the need to comply with all the requirements of those agencies.

§ 5. General Limitations

The Department issues this Order solely to address the emergency created by the EVENT. This Order shall not be construed to authorize any activity within the jurisdiction of the Department except in accordance with the express terms of this Order. Under no
circumstances shall anything contained in this Order be construed to authorize the repair, replacement, or reconstruction of any type of unauthorized or illegal structure, habitable or otherwise.

§ 6. Other Authorizations Required
Nothing in this Order shall eliminate the necessity for obtaining any other federal, state, or local permits or other authorizations that may be required.

§ 7. Completion of Authorized Activities
All activities authorized under this Order must be commenced before the expiration of this Order unless otherwise provided in an authorization or permit. The deadline for commencement under any authorization or permit issued under this Order may be extended if additional time is needed to obtain any required authorization from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or other local, state, or federal agencies.

§ 8. Amendments
This Order may be amended as required to abate the emergency.

§ 9. Expiration Date
This Declaration of Emergency and Administrative Order shall take effect immediately upon execution by the Secretary of the Department, and shall expire at 11:59 p.m. on May 13, 2024, unless terminated sooner, modified, or extended by further order.

DONE AND ORDERED on this 12th day of April 2024, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

[Signature]
Aurelia S. Giacometto
Secretary
# APPENDIX A

LDEQ Regional Office Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Office</th>
<th>Parishes Served</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acadiana Regional Office</strong></td>
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</table>
| **Regional Manager: Rhonda McCormick** | 111 New Center Drive  
Lafayette, LA 70508  
phone: (337) 262-5584  
fax: (337) 262-5593  
email: aroadmin@la.gov | Acadia, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia (West of the Atchafalaya River), Lafayette, LaSalle, Rapides, St. Landry, St. Martin (West of the Atchafalaya River), St. Mary, Vermilion |
| **Capital Regional Office**       |                                                                                |
| **Regional Manager: April Wallace** | PO. Box 4312  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312  
phone: (225) 219-3600  
fax: (225) 219-3695  
email: croadmin@la.gov | Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Iberia (East of the Atchafalaya River), Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St. James, St. Martin (East of the Atchafalaya River), Tangipahoa, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana |
| **Northeast Regional Office**     |                                                                                |
| **Regional Manager: Casey Head**  | 508 Downing Pines Road  
West Monroe, LA 71292-0442  
phone: (318) 362-5439  
fax: (318) 362-5448  
email: neroadmin@la.gov | Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, West Carroll, Winn |
| **Northwest Regional Office**     |                                                                                |
| **Regional Manager: Mark Juneau** | 1525 Fairfield, Room 520  
Shreveport, LA 71101-4388  
phone: (318) 676-7227  
fax: (318) 676-7573  
email: nwroadmin@la.gov | Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, De Soto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster |
| **Southeast Regional Office**     |                                                                                |
| **Regional Manager: Dionne Magness** | 201 Evans Road, Building 4, Suite 420  
New Orleans, LA 70123-5230  
phone: (504) 736-7701  
fax: (504) 736-7702  
email: seroadmin@la.gov | Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. John the Baptist, St. Charles, St. Tammany, Terrebonne, Washington |
| **Southwest Regional Office**     |                                                                                |
| **Regional Manager: Chrissie Gubancsik** | 1301 Gadwall Street  
Lake Charles, LA 70615  
phone: (337) 491-2667  
fax: (337) 491-2682  
email: swroadmin@la.gov | Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis, Vernon |