Proclamation

Whereas, commencing on the 24th day of July 2019 and continuing, a tunnel along the Fort Laramie Canal located southwest of Fort Laramie, Wyoming partially collapsed causing a canal breach and resulted in water diversion flows from the Whalen Diversion Dam along the North Platte River to be closed halting water flow available for irrigation of agricultural lands in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska which is served by the Gering Irrigation District,

Whereas, the growing season for agricultural producers is well underway and the situation with limited or no irrigation water to support crop production is expected to continue into the foreseeable future, creating an extreme economic burden on the impacted area,

Now, Therefore, under the provisions of R.R.S. 81-829.40, which confers emergency responsibilities and powers upon the Governor, I, Pete Ricketts, as Governor of the State of Nebraska do hereby declare that a state of emergency exists within the impacted area in the State of Nebraska.

I hereby direct the Nebraska Adjutant General, who also serves as State Disaster Coordinator, to activate appropriate State emergency plans and to take such steps as he deems necessary to meet these emergencies, and to continue these actions until such time as the threat to life and property created by these situations have been alleviated.

I further direct or request, State and appropriate Federal agencies to cooperate with and support the Adjutant General of Nebraska upon his request, as may be appropriate and lawful.

I hereby authorize, the Adjutant General of Nebraska to activate such elements of State Government and Emergency Management resources as are appropriate to deal with this emergency and to expend such funds, within the limitations of availability, from the Governor's Emergency Fund to support these actions.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this the 24th day of July, 2019.

Done at the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, on this Twenty-Fourth day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen.

Pete Ricketts
Governor
State of Nebraska

ATTEST:

Robert B. Evnen
Secretary of State