State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2003-036

EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR FORESTRY DIVISION OF THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARMENT

WHEREAS, wildland fires have occurred statewide;

WHEREAS, the Forestry Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department has incurred expenditures beginning July 1, 2003, in budget fiscal year 2004;

WHEREAS, these wildland fires are of such magnitude as to be beyond local control and require state resources;

WHEREAS, conditions for wildland fires are dangerous and are expected to increase, therefore there is a need to prepare to respond efficiently;

WHEREAS, the Forestry Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department is responsible for prevention and suppression of wildland fires on all non-federal and non-municipal lands in the state, as authorized under the Forest Conservation Act, NMSA 1978 Section 68-2-1 to 68-2-25;

WHEREAS, the Forestry Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department is designated as the agent of the state and authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States and other state, federal and private agencies or organizations to prevent and suppress wildfires pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 68-2-6;

WHEREAS, emergency funds shall be expended by the Forestry Division of the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department for the purposes of responding to wildland fires and in order to ensure that preparation will be adequate to deal with such disasters; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 6-7-3, emergency funds shall be expended by the Governor or any agent or agency designated by him either as a state project or for securing matching funds when the disaster is beyond local control and requires state resources.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico herewith declare an emergency situation exists, and therefore, authorize the Department of Finance and Administration, pursuant to NMSA 1987 Section 6-7-2, et.seq., to provide emergency financial resources in the amount of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars ($750,000) to the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. Funds shall be expended for the purpose of wildland fire disaster relief, post fire rehabilitation and adequate preparation to deal with such disasters as a project, or for securing matching funds for emergencies.

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

REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS
15th DAY OFAUGUST, 2003

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

Bill Richardson

BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR