



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 18 JBE 2018

STATE OF EMERGENCY – CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters, including those caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or manmade causes, in order to ensure that preparations of this State will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:724(B)(1) empowers the Governor to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2017, heavy rainfall caused flash flooding in Orleans Parish with wide spread street flooding;

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2017, the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board's (S&WB) power plant malfunctioned and is in need of immediate, emergency repair;

WHEREAS, generators that provide much of the power for pumps throughout the city are located at the S&WB's power plant; and

WHEREAS, any heavy rainfall continues to pose the threat of flooding in parts of the city.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721 *et seq.*, a state of emergency is hereby declared to exist in Orleans Parish as a result of the flash flooding and the recent malfunction at the S&WB's power plant, the effects of which continue to threaten the lives and property of the citizens of the State.

SECTION 2: The Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law which he deems appropriate in response to this declaration.

SECTION 3: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this severe weather event.

SECTION 4: This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Thursday, February 1, 2018 until Friday, March 2, 2018, unless terminated sooner.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 31st day of January, 2018.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE**



SECRETARY OF STATE