State of Louisiana

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 17 JBE 2020

RENEWAL OF STATE OF EMERGENCY –HARD ROCK HOTEL CRANE DEMOLITION

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 him to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both;

WHEREAS, on Saturday, October 12, 2019, the Hard Rock Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, which was under construction, partially collapsed causing the death of three people;

WHEREAS, on Sunday, October 20, 2019, two unstable construction cranes that were in danger of falling onto surrounding buildings, were imploded and subsequently secured;

WHEREAS, the partially collapsed Hard Rock Hotel remains a threat to life and property;

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 29:724 confers upon the Governor the authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for the conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, it is urgent that the two damaged cranes from the building collapse be brought down immediately for the safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the affected area.

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 imminent threat of emergency conditions that threaten the lives and property of the people of Orleans Parish.

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

SECTION 3: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:734(D)(1), the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551 *et seq.*) and Louisiana Public Bid Law (La. R.S. 38:2211, *et seq.*) and their corresponding rules and regulations are hereby suspended for the purpose of executing an emergency public works agreement for the purpose of the crane demolition.

SECTION 4: 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 5: This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Saturday, February 15, 2020 to Sunday, March 15, 2020, unless terminated sooner.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge on this 14th day of February, 2020.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE