State of Louisiana

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 36 JBE 2020

RENEWAL OF TOWN OF CLAYTON

WHEREAS, the Town of Clayton has 292 residents that depend on the Town's water distribution system;

WHEREAS, the Town has been unable to increase the water rates sufficient enough to sustain operation of the water distribution system and the system is currently without an operator;

WHEREAS, closure of the water distribution system would create a threat of an imminent public health emergency;

WHEREAS, the public health authority has consulted with the Governor and advised that he has determined that the threat of a public health emergency, as defined in La. R.S. 29:762, is imminent;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760 *et seq.*, confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters in order to ensure that preparations of this State will be adequate to deal with such emergencies and to preserve the lives and property of the people of the State of Louisiana, and to ensure the State has the ability to respond, rapidly and effectively, to potential or actual public health emergencies;

WHEREAS, when the Governor determines that a disaster or emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:766(B) empowers the Governor to declare a state of public health emergency by executive order or proclamation, or both; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to issue this declaration to ensure an efficient and effective State response.

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 Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760 *et seq.*, and more specifically, La. R.S. 29:766, a state of public health emergency is hereby declared to exist within the Town of Clayton in Concordia Parish.

SECTION 2: The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Louisiana National Guard, and the Louisiana Department of Health are hereby authorized to undertake any activity authorized by law deemed 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 event.

SECTION 4: This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Wednesday, March 25, 2020 to Thursday, April 23, 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 24th day of March, 2020.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE