

STATE DOCUMENT



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER #148**

**Proclamation of a State of Emergency  
Relating to Drought Conditions**

WHEREAS, virtually every county in the State of Wisconsin has experienced extreme drought conditions due to lack of precipitation during the spring of 1992; and

WHEREAS, the drought condition has caused extreme damage to agricultural crops in the state; and

WHEREAS, continual lack of water for the crops will result in still greater damage to the crops; and

WHEREAS, continued and projected crop damage will result in severe economic losses to the agricultural industry and consumers in the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, water can be diverted from certain streams and lakes in the State of Wisconsin without causing serious environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, Section 30.18, Wis. Stats., presently requires that certain lake and stream diversions for agricultural purposes must be accomplished pursuant to a permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, Section 30.18, Wis. Stats., requires a diversion permit process that is too lengthy to be responsive to the existing drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the waiver of the notice and hearing provisions of Section 30.18, Wis. Stats., in the manner set forth in this Executive Order, will enable the State of Wisconsin to be more responsive to the current agricultural crisis and still protect the valuable water resources of the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of Wisconsin, and Section 166.03(1)(b)1., Wis. Stats., hereby declare the present drought condition to be a natural disaster and hereby proclaim the entire State of Wisconsin to be in a state of emergency for 30 days, unless extended by joint resolution of the Legislature.

PURSUANT TO said state of emergency, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of Wisconsin, and Section 166.03(1)(b)1., Wis. Stats., I hereby order:

- 1) That the statutory notice and hearing provisions of Section 30.18, Wis. Stats., relating to the diversion of water from certain lakes and streams for purposes of crop irrigation, be suspended and the required fees be waived.
- 2) That water may be diverted from certain lakes and streams for purposes of crop irrigation, on a case-by-case basis only where the following procedures have been followed:
  - a) The proposed divertor has requested permission from the closest Department of Natural Resources District or Area Office.

RECEIVED

JUN 23 1992

Legislative Reference  
Bureau