



— State of —
North Dakota

Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

Executive Order 2008-02

WHEREAS, lack of snowfall and rain, combined with high winds, has caused severe dry conditions and low soil moisture levels that have had a detrimental impact on crop and pasture conditions throughout North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, the last six months in North Dakota have been the driest on record for the state; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Drought monitor index shows most of North Dakota to be in a drought, with the entire western portion of the state classified as extreme or severe; and

WHEREAS, these conditions have had an adverse impact on livestock pastures conditions, crop emergence and production, and agribusiness; and

WHEREAS, these conditions will contribute to water supply shortages for livestock and agricultural producers, to include pasture ponds and dugouts; and

WHEREAS, producers may be forced into supplemental feeding and sell-down of livestock herds to enable operations during this period of extended drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, financial losses to the agricultural industry and agri-business, constitute a serious economic hardship for the entire state; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Hoeven, Governor of the State of North Dakota, by the authority vested in me, declare that a statewide early-phase agricultural drought emergency exists; and

I order that the Agriculture Working Group of the Drought Task Force convene and all state agencies and administrators maintain agricultural drought response support resources and capabilities at high levels of readiness in order to execute their responsibilities pursuant to the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP), and that state

officials coordinate with appropriate federal agencies to make appropriate drought response programs available.

I further order the State Water Commission to convene to take the necessary measures to implement and fund the Drought Disaster Livestock Water Supply Project Assistance Program.

This order is issued upon the following basis and for the following reasons:

1. The governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1, of the North Dakota Constitution; and
2. The governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders, minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and
3. A coordinated and effective effort of appropriate government departments is required to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters in this state.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 9 day of May 2008

_____/S/_____
John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:

_____/S/_____
Secretary of State

Deputy