

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
 BY: GREGORY P. PRIAMOS DATE 8/13/15

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



843

**FROM:** Riverside County Emergency Management Department

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
 August 12, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation of Local Emergency in Riverside County due to a severe microburst, extremely high winds, hail, and lightning strikes resulting in conditions of extreme peril and threatening the safety of persons, property, and critical infrastructure.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:  
 1. Ratify the Proclamation of Local Emergency by the Director of Emergency Services; and,  
 2. Adopt Resolution No. 2015-195 declaring a Local Emergency within Riverside County.

**BACKGROUND:**

Summary

Conditions of extreme peril existed to the safety of persons, property and critical infrastructure that arose within the county due to a severe microburst creating winds in excess of 70 mph which occurred on August 6, 2015, in the unincorporated area of Thermal. The microburst produced rainfall, hail, lightning strikes, and damage to personal property and critical infrastructure. At the time of the Proclamation, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside was not in session, necessitating the Director of Emergency Services to Proclaim that a Local Emergency exists in Riverside County. It is requested that the Board of Supervisors ratify the Proclamation of a Local Emergency and adopt Resolution No. 2015-195 declaring the Local Emergency and requesting state assistance.

*Kim Saruwatari*  
 Kim Saruwatari, Director  
 Emergency Management  
 Department

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$	\$	\$	\$	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$	\$	\$	\$	

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** \_\_\_\_\_ Budget Adjustment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 For Fiscal Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**

**APPROVE**

BY: *Jay E. Orr*  
 Jay E. Orr

County Executive Office Signature

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Tavaglione and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington and Benoit  
 Nays: None  
 Absent: Ashley  
 Date: August 18, 2015  
 xc: EMD

Kecia Harper-Ihem  
 Clerk of the Board  
 By: *Kecia Harper-Ihem*  
 Deputy

- A-30
- Positions Added
- 4/5 Vote
- Change Order

Prev. Agn. Ref.: \_\_\_\_\_ District: ALL Agenda Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**3-94**

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**FORM 11: Declaration of Local Emergency in Riverside County due to a severe microburst, high winds, hail,**  
**and lightning strikes.**

**DATE: August 12, 2015**

**PAGE: 2 of 2**

**Impact on Citizens and Businesses**

Thousands of residents have been impacted by this storm event through power outages, road closures, evacuations, and debris removal. Two people were physically injured and transported to a local hospital. Imperial Irrigation District (IID), the energy provider to this community, reported that 7,569 customers were affected by the initial outage due to 130 downed power poles and transmission lines spanning 4.9 miles, and damage to 15 distribution transformers. Initial estimates from IID indicate damage in excess of \$13.4M resulting from this storm event.

1 RESOLUTION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE

2 OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

3 Board of Supervisors

County of Riverside

4 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

5 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

6 RESOLUTION NO. 2015-195


7  
8 WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8630 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to  
9 proclaim the existence of a "local emergency"; and,

10 WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8558(c) defines such conditions as air  
11 pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant  
12 or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake, or volcanic  
13 prediction, or an earthquake or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor  
14 controversy, which conditions are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel,  
15 equipment and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other  
16 political subdivisions to combat"; and,

17 WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons, property and critical  
18 infrastructure which took place August 6, 2015, due to a microburst creating winds in excess of  
19 70 mph and producing rainfall, hail, lightning strikes, road closures, evacuations, damage to  
20 private and public critical infrastructure to include 4.9 miles of downed power transmission  
lines, that have resulted in conditions of extreme peril threatening the safety of persons and  
property within the County of Riverside; and,

21 WHEREAS, Imperial Irrigation District, responsible for providing energy to the area of  
Thermal, has proclaimed a local emergency due to the severity of damage to their electrical  
infrastructure which is estimated to exceed \$13.4M; and,

22 WHEREAS, there exists an imminent threat to life, property, critical infrastructure and  
the environment; and,

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
BY:  GREGORY P. BRIAMOS  
DATE: 8/18/15

AUG 18 2015 3-94

1           **WHEREAS**, the County of Riverside is working with State, Federal, local government,  
2 and non-profit resources to assist with response and recovery efforts; and,

3           **WHEREAS**, private property, public roads, public infrastructure, and school districts  
4 have all been impacted by the effects of severe weather; and,

5           **WHEREAS**, the aforementioned conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate  
6 the proclamation of a "local emergency".

7           **NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DECLARED** by the Board of  
8 Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, in regular session assembled on  
9 **August 18, 2015**, that an emergency now exists within said County;

10           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said  
11 emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the  
12 Emergency Management Department of Riverside County shall be those prescribed by State  
13 law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of the County of Riverside in order to  
14 mitigate the effects of said emergency; and,

15           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that all County officials and employees  
16 cooperate and coordinate efforts with officials and employees of other political subdivisions  
17 and officials and employees of the state and federal government in bringing the present  
18 condition of local emergency and disaster under control; and

19           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that within the next thirty (30) days a  
20 report on the most recent conditions of emergency and disaster be presented to this Board of  
21 Supervisors so that this Board may determine whether conditions of emergency and disaster  
22 still exist; and,

23           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that a copy of this resolution be  
24 forwarded to the Governor of California with the request that he proclaim the existence of a  
25 State of Emergency throughout the impacted areas of Riverside County, and that the  
26 Riverside County Director of Emergency Services and the Board of Supervisors are formally  
27 requesting California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding.  
28

2 RESOLUTION 2015-195

3 RESOLUTION DECLARING  
4 THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

5 ADOPTED by Riverside County Board of Supervisors on August 18, 2015.

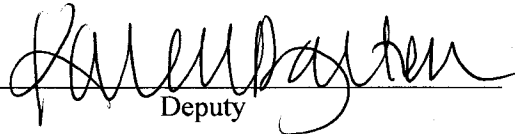
6 ROLL CALL:

7  
8 Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Washington and Benoit  
9 Nays: None  
10 Absent: Ashley

11  
12 The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of  
13 Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

14 KECIA HARPER-IHEM, Clerk of said Board

15 By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Deputy

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COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

WHEREAS, Ordinance 533.5 of the County of Riverside empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a "Local Emergency" when the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services finds:

That at the time of this proclamation the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and,

WHEREAS, a severe microburst occurred on August 6, 2015, in the unincorporated area of Thermal, producing rainfall, hail, lightning strikes, winds in excess of 70 mph, and property damage, that has resulted in conditions of extreme peril threatening the safety of persons and property within the County of Riverside; and,

WHEREAS, the community has experienced physical injury to private residents, in addition to road closures, evacuations, and loss of electricity due to severe impacts to critical infrastructure, initially causing 7,569 Imperial Irrigation District customers to lose power due to 4.9 miles of downed transmission lines, as well as impacts to 15 distribution transformers, 7 substations, and 2.8 miles of distribution lines; and,

WHEREAS, Imperial Irrigation District, responsible for providing energy to the area of Thermal, has proclaimed a local emergency due to the severity of damage to their electrical infrastructure which is estimated to exceed \$13.4M; and,

WHEREAS, State, Federal, Tribal, local government, and non-profit resources have been called upon to assist with the response to human needs and recovery efforts; and,

WHEREAS, private property, public roads, public infrastructure, tribal lands, schools, and other special districts have all been impacted by this severe event; and,

WHEREAS, the potential of the aforementioned conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a "Local Emergency".

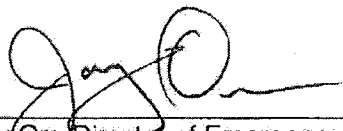
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a "Local Emergency" exists throughout the County of Riverside; and,

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said "Local Emergency", the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the Emergency Management Department of this County shall be those prescribed by State law and the charter, ordinances, resolutions and approved plans of the County of Riverside in order to mitigate the effects of said "Local Emergency"; and,

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that said "Local Emergency" shall be deemed to continue to exist for the next fourteen days, and thereafter by ratification of the Board of Supervisors, until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside; and,

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Governor of California with the request that he proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency throughout the impacted areas of Riverside County, and that the Riverside County Director of Emergency Services and Board of Supervisors are formally requesting California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding.

Dated: August 12, 2015

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay Orr, Director of Emergency Services  
County of Riverside