



## Centre Region Council of Governments OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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### DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on **March 13, 2020**, the novel coronavirus known as **COVID 19** has potential to cause widespread illness, death and negatively impact the economy of the Centre Region; and

WHEREAS, **COVID 19** could endanger the health, safety and welfare of a substantial number of persons residing in the Centre Region and threatens to create problems greater in scope than the Centre Region may be able to resolve; and

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of such a disaster and to protect the health, safety and welfare of affected residents in the Centre Region; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Chair and Executive Director of the Centre Region Council of Governments, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, (35 PA C.S., Section 7501), as amended, proclaimed the existence of a disaster emergency in the Centre Region; and

WHEREAS, on the growing presence of COVID 19 in the State of Pennsylvania and in the Centre Region has prompted Governor Wolf to declare a statewide disaster emergency, to direct non-life sustaining businesses and functions in the state to close, to direct residents of the Commonwealth to stay at home, except for allowable individual activities and allowable essential travel and to request Presidential approval of a major disaster declaration;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Executive Committee of the undersigned Chair and Executive Director of the Centre Region Council of Governments, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, (35 PA C.S., Section 7501), as amended, does hereby proclaim the continuing existence of a disaster emergency in the Centre Region.

FURTHER, we direct the Centre Region Emergency Management Coordinator to coordinate the activities of the emergency response, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate the effects of this potential disaster, to aid in the restoration of essential public services, and to take any other emergency response action deemed necessary to respond to any emergencies associated with this potential disaster.

STILL FURTHER, we authorize officials of the Centre Region to act as necessary, at times making time-sensitive critical decisions to meet the current demands of this potential emergency, namely: by the employment of temporary workers, by the rental of equipment, by the purchase of supplies and materials, and by entering into such contracts and agreements for the performance of public work as may be required to meet the emergency, all without unnecessary constraint from time-consuming procedures and formalities such as open and transparent meetings of elected officials normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted.

This Proclamation shall take effect immediately and shall continue to remain in effect until the Governor of Pennsylvania ends the disaster emergency declaration for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Centre Region Council of Governments



(Elliot Abrams, Centre Region COG Chair)



(Eric Norenberg, Centre Region COG Executive Director)

Date: 4/7/2020