



**PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY ACTING DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
REQUESTING GOVERNOR TO
PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Chapter 12, Section 6 (b) of the Santa Barbara County Code, empowers the County of Santa Barbara, Acting Director of Emergency Services, to proclaim a local emergency if the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, Section 8558 (c) of the Government Code defines a "Local Emergency" as: "the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, complications resulting from the Year 2000 Problem, or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat, or with respect to regulated energy utilities, a sudden and severe energy shortage requires extraordinary measures beyond the authority vested in the California Public Utilities Commission"; and,

WHEREAS, the Acting Director of Emergency Services finds that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property as a result of the Gap Fire necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency within the County of Santa Barbara; and,

WHEREAS, the Gap Fire began on July 1, 2008, and lead to mandatory evacuations; and,

WHEREAS, by July 2, 2008 the Gap Fire had grown to over 1,200 acres and threatened populated areas and damaged power lines that have resulted in large scale outages. Mandatory evacuations remains in place and other populations have been displaced through evacuation warnings. The Gap Fire has, as of this date, now consumed 1,200 acres, and has required extensive local, state and federal fire resources. These conditions constitute a local emergency as defined in Government Code Section 8558, subdivision (c); and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County is not in session;

1. **NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that a local emergency now exists in the County of Santa Barbara; and,
2. That all the recitals set forth herein above are true, correct, and valid; and,
3. That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County of Santa Barbara have arisen as a result of the Gap Fire, commencing on July 1, 2008. The Gap Fire has grown to over 1,200 acres and is threatening populated areas, critical utilities such as water and power supplies, which has led


to mandatory evacuations, evacuation warnings and large scale power outages. The Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County is not in session and said conditions constitute a local emergency as defined in Government Code Section 8558, subdivision (c); and,

4. That these aforementioned conditions of extreme peril are not the results of labor controversy; and,
5. That in furtherance of this proclamation of local emergency, there is hereby invoked in the County of Santa Barbara all of the powers and mechanisms set forth in the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code sections 8550 et seq.), Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 12, Section 6 and all other applicable laws, as said powers and mechanisms may hereafter be used by authorized personnel of the County of Santa Barbara; and,
6. That, pursuant to Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 12, Section 6(a)(6)(C) and (D), the Acting Director of Emergency Services, in the absence of the Director of Emergency Services is empowered to require the emergency services of any county officer or employee and to requisition necessary personnel or material of any county department or agency; and,
7. That a copy of this Proclamation of Local Emergency shall be posted on all outside public access doors of the County Administration Building in Santa Barbara, County offices in Santa Ynez, Lompoc and Santa Maria. Personnel of said County shall make copies of this Proclamation available to news media and available on the County's web site (www.countyofsb.org); and,
8. That this Proclamation of Local Emergency shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days from the date hereof, unless ratified by the Board of Supervisors, and extended, or unless sooner terminated.

IT IS ORDERED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the State Director of Emergency Services and the Governor of California with a request that the Governor include Santa Barbara County in California's existing proclamation of emergency.

Dated: July 2, 2007

Time: 21:55


Assistant County Executive Officer
Acting Director of Emergency Services
County of Santa Barbara