

EXECUTIVE ORDER ST. BERNARD PARISH

WHEREAS, St. Bernard Parish and its citizens have suffered tremendously as a result of catastrophic coastal land loss and environmental degradation over the past century, and is currently being threatened with the exacerbation of coastal land loss and environmental degradation resulting from the ongoing and unprecedented influx of freshwater into St. Bernard Parish's waterways and estuaries, which will adversely impact the viability of the Parish's economically and culturally significant commercial and recreational industries as well as the health, safety, welfare, and resilience of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, St. Bernard Parish has already observed significant damage to its valuable fish, oyster, shellfish, aquaculture crops and wildlife production, including unexplained death and disease among the local dolphin population and undetermined damage to other species since the Bonnet Carre Spillway was initially opened months ago; and

WHEREAS, St. Bernard Parish now faces the prospect of the Bonnet Carre Spillway being opened for an unprecedented second time in a matter of months, likely causing a drastic increase in the ongoing influx of freshwater into the Parish's estuaries and waterways; and

WHEREAS, St. Bernard recognizes the importance of flood control measures, including the opening of the Bonnet Carre Spillway, taken as a result of the present state of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, the very definite threats of irreparable environmental harm and loss of property, and related threats to the health, safety, welfare, and resilience of the citizens of St. Bernard Parish are now imminent; and

WHEREAS, such emergency action must be taken now.

WHEREAS, I, **GUY McINNIS**, President of St. Bernard Parish and Chief Executive Officer, by the authority vested in me by the St. Bernard Parish Home Rule Charter and the Louisiana Homeland Assistance and Disaster Act, LA-R.S. 29:721 et seq., do hereby proclaim;

A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist within St. Bernard Parish and all the Emergency Preparedness Plans and all Emergency Operations Plans be activated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all provisions of the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act of 1993 as Amended by Acts 2003 are hereby invoked, effective immediately.

Issued on this 10th day of May, 2019 and is effective at time of issuance.

*Guy McInnis, President
St. Bernard Parish*

Time of Issuance _____

Recorded on COB ____ Folio ____
Parish of St. Bernard on the ____ day
of May 10, 2019