

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

At Charleston

A PROCLAMATION

By the Governor

WHEREAS, beginning on September 10, 2026, flooding occurred in parts of Mason County, West Virginia, leading to severe erosion and the displacement of significant material of an estimated minimum of 900 cubic yards of earthen material from the riverbank at the Kanawha St. levee discharge culvert where it meets the Ohio River; and

WHEREAS, this displaced material now has the potential to impede any water that may discharge from the levee discharge device which may cause additional erosion; and

WHEREAS, the erosion that has already occurred has resulted in the closing of a railroad track line because the slide has encroached to within two feet of the track and if erosion continues it could cause the main line to close; and

WHEREAS, if immediate action is not taken to stabilize the bank erosion, the situation may escalate with more severe erosion imminent; and

WHEREAS, flooding has damaged homes, roads, and other infrastructure throughout the county, and

WHEREAS, the effects of this flooding and the resulting erosion and displacement of materials pose a severe and continuing threat to the health, safety, welfare, and property of the citizens of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, West Virginia Code § 15-5-6(b) authorizes the declaration of a State of Emergency in Mason County; issuing a State of Emergency will help local, state, and federal personnel coordinate resources, equipment, and manpower to assist this county in responding to this incident; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with my authority as Governor, it has been deemed necessary and beneficial to declare a State of Emergency, pursuant to West Virginia Code § 15-5-6(b), for Mason County, West Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PATRICK MORRISEY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of West Virginia, and in view of the foregoing, do hereby **FIND AND DECLARE** that a State of Emergency exists and continues in Mason County, said State of Emergency to remain in effect for thirty days unless terminated by subsequent Proclamation. In response to this State of Emergency, I have **INVOKED** the emergency powers set forth in West Virginia Code §15-5-6; **UTILIZED** the Emergency Operations Plan, as necessary; **ORDERED** appropriate personnel and resources, as may be deemed necessary, to mobilize and respond to the emergency; and **DELEGATED** certain administrative powers to the Director of the West Virginia Emergency Management Division, as necessary, to facilitate the provision of essential emergency services.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.



By the State

DONE at the Capitol in the City of
Charleston, State of West Virginia, this
Seventeenth Day of September, in the year of
our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, in the
One Hundred Sixty-Fourth Year of the State.

Patrick Morissey
GOVERNOR

Kris Warner
SECRETARY OF STATE