



**Southern Service Center
1800 Century Blvd., Suite 1700
Atlanta, Georgia 30345**

**US Department
Of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier
Safety Administration**

In Reply Refer To: MC-EFE-SV

September 13, 2008

Hurricanes Gustav and Ike have interrupted off-shore oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico; shut down or reduced production by many of the refineries and pipelines along the Gulf Coast; and damaged storage facilities and transportation infrastructure throughout the region. The aftermath of the hurricanes affects the whole nation.

In order to prevent significant disruptions to the nation's transportation system, supplies of gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, propane, natural gas/CNG, and ethanol will need to be distributed by commercial motor vehicles in order to meet demand normally supplied by Gulf Coast operations.

**DECLARATION OF REGIONAL EMERGENCY
49 CFR §390.23**

I am therefore declaring that a regional emergency exists in portions of the Southern Region in the highway transportation of certain petroleum products and ingredients. Motor carriers and drivers transporting gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, propane, natural gas/CNG, and ethanol to address emergency needs arising from the hurricane disaster (such as fuel supply shortages) are exempt from 49 CFR Parts 390-399 from 4:00 p.m. EDT, September 13, 2008 until 11:59 p.m. EDT, September 27, 2008. No other products are covered by the exemption. Motor carriers and drivers transporting these products to and from the affected States within the Southern Region in order to meet emergency needs are also exempt from 49 CFR Parts 390-399 for any portion of the trip that occurs outside the affected States within the Southern Region.

Nothing contained in this declaration shall be construed as an exemption from the controlled substances and alcohol use and testing requirements (49 CFR Part 382), the commercial driver's license requirements (49 CFR Part 383), the financial responsibility (insurance) requirements (49 CFR Part 387), operating authority (49 CFR Part 365), applicable size and weight requirements, or any other portion of the regulations not specifically identified.

Motor carriers or drivers currently subject to an out-of-service order are not eligible for the exemption until the order expires or they have met the conditions for its rescission.

Drivers for motor carriers operating under this declaration must have a copy of it in their possession.

The State(s) affected in the Southern Region include(s) the following: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Signed,

Darrell L. Ruban
Field Administrator