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Columbia, S.C. 29221 (803) 798-4170

May 8, 2014

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor
The State of South Carolina
P.O. Box 12267
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Governor Haley,

The South Carolina Forestry Association and the South Carolina Timber Producers Association appreciate your strong leadership in protecting South Carolina during the February 11-13, 2014 ice storm.

Thank you for issuing Executive Orders 2014-21 and 2014-24 allowing our industry to expedite the salvage operations of our state's forests and timberlands as a result of damage from the February ice storm by permitting unmanufactured forest products to be hauled up to a gross vehicle weight of 90,000 pounds.

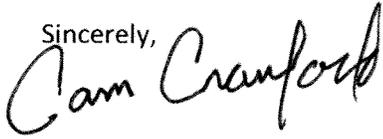
We respectfully request an extension of Executive Order 2014-24 effective May 13, 2014. Our industry is still harvesting downed trees resulting from the ice storm.

The Foresters' Council of South Carolina has been advising the state's governors during natural disasters impacting forests since 1962 and represents Federal and State forestry agencies and the forest industry. The Foresters' Council leadership concurs with the need for an extension due to the high volume of debris and downed trees that remain in our state's forests and private timberlands.

As previously stated, the reasons for this emergency request are public safety and the need to reduce the negative economic impact of the storm damage. First, the downed trees and debris have increased the fuel load in our state's forest which needs to be removed to prevent wildfires. Second, debris and fallen trees attract pests that can lead to disease of our forests. Third, our landowners need to salvage timber to reduce their economic losses while it still has value. Fourth, our state's forest products mills have a low supply of timber due to the ice storm. Finally, the substantial damage to our timberlands will most likely take up to six months to clean up and remove with our current logging capacity.

We appreciate your attention to this matter. Please contact Cam Crawford at 803-798-4170 or Crad Jaynes at 803-957-9919 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Cam Crawford
President & CEO
South Carolina Forestry Association

Sincerely,



Crad Jaynes
President & CEO
South Carolina Timber Producers Association

Cc: Jon Sokol, Chairman, Foresters' Council of South Carolina
Gene Kodama, South Carolina State Forester