

Department of the Interior to cooperate with the States with respect to the reclamation of abandoned mines, including the provision of federal funds for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, Special federal funds are available to assist the State in the early reclamation of abandoned mines which may represent a danger to the public health, safety, general welfare, and property; and

WHEREAS, I have authorized the State Department of Natural Resources to identify any abandoned mines in Maryland which may qualify for such special federal funds; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of General Services, and the Board of Trustees of the State Universities and Colleges have advised me that the Frostburg State College Mine Subsidence Control Project qualifies for the provision of special federal funds; and

WHEREAS, The Department of General Services is now in the position to commence procedures for the selection of an engineer to prepare detailed plans and specifications for this project; and

WHEREAS, Full compliance with the selection requirements set forth in Section 231V(a) of Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland will involve a delay of several months in the development of the plans and specifications and will therefore delay the completion of the project and jeopardize the availability of federal funds for the project; and

WHEREAS, Upon the advice of the aforementioned Secretaries and the Board of Trustees, I am convinced that such a delay, in this instance, is not only unwarranted but would be harmful to the health and general welfare of the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, Section 231V(b) of Article 41 of the Code authorizes the General Professional Services Selection Board to waive the requirements of Section 231V(a) when a state of emergency is declared by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, I believe that an emergency as contemplated by Section 231V(b) does exist, and that the waiver of the requirements of Section 231V(a), in this instance, will not be detrimental to the State or its citizens;

NCW, THEREFORE, I, EIAIR LEE III, ACTING GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY ARTICLE II, SECTION 6 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION AND BY ARTICLE 41, SECTION 231V(B) OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND,