2.03 SUPPORT TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHEN DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

2.03.1 GENERAL
This policy complements the document “Declaring a State of Local Emergency in British Columbia”.

Related Policies:
N/A

2.03.2 DEFINITIONS
See Terms and Definitions

2.03.3 POLICY STATEMENT
(1) EMBC staff must not provide legal advice regarding the Emergency Program Act but may provide information on the application of the legislation based on experience and documented practice.

2.03.4 CONDITIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES
(1) Applying the legislated authority to declare a state of local emergency and employment of the emergency powers must be justified. The situation must clearly be an emergency or disaster as defined in the Emergency Program Act and application of the powers must support the achievement of the British Columbia Emergency Management System (BCEMS) goals by a local authority. While local governments are authorized by the Act to determine that the declaration of a state of local emergency is required, the Minister responsible or the Lieutenant Governor in Council may override this decision by either cancelling the local declaration or by issuing a provincial state of emergency for the same area.

(2) The prescribed procedure and process for a local authority to declare a state of local emergency by an order is outlined in the document “Declaring a State of Local Emergency in British Columbia, Oct 2011”.

2.03.5 AUTHORITIES
Emergency Program Act
Emergency Program Management Regulation
Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation
Original Signed by

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Chris Duffy
A/Assistant Deputy Minister
Emergency Management BC

August 4, 2016

2.03.6 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Declaring a State of Local Emergency in British Columbia