DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY (Virginia Code § 44-146.21)

As the Director of Emergency Management for Albemarle County, Virginia, I find the imminent threat of a major winter storm (the "Storm") forecast to arrive in Albemarle County on the afternoon of Sunday, January 16, 2022 to be of sufficient magnitude to be a "disaster" as that term is defined in Virginia Code § 44-146.16 because it has the potential to cause downed trees, widespread power outages, and hazardous travel conditions. As a result, coordinated local government action is warranted to prevent or alleviate any potential damage, loss, hardship, or suffering in Albemarle County.

I also find that exigent circumstances exist for me to make this Declaration.

Therefore, pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21, I hereby declare the existence of a Local Emergency in Albemarle County, Virginia beginning January <u>15</u>, 2022 at <u>111144</u>. In accordance with this Declaration, the Regional Emergency Operations Plan is activated, and I authorize appropriate aid and assistance to be provided under the Plan to prepare for and recover from the Storm and to alleviate any conditions resulting from the Storm. In addition, all appropriate County agencies are hereby vested with, and authorized to carry out, all powers, duties, and functions prescribed by State and local laws, rules, regulations, and plans as may be necessary to adequately and appropriately prepare for and respond to the Storm and to reduce damage, loss, hardship, and suffering as much as possible. In declaring this Local Emergency, I find that it arises wholly or substantially as a result of the Storm, and does not arise wholly or substantially because of any "resource shortage" as that term is defined in Virginia Code § 44-

146.

Jeffrey B. Richardson, County Executive and Director of Emergency Management