I, James Conley Justice II, Governor of the State of West Virginia, am responsible for the preservation of lives and property of the people of this state. In compliance with and under the authorities provided to West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in West Virginia Code §15-5-1. Et seq., I pledge that the State of West Virginia will continue to comply with all applicable federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding. I have directed the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to develop the 2018 Statewide Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

This 2018 Statewide Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan Update implements hazard mitigation measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters throughout the state, and was developed in a joint and cooperative venture by the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, numerous state agencies, and stakeholders from various organizations representing the diverse interests within the State of West Virginia.

Pursuant to the 2018 Statewide Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, responsibilities for hazard mitigation activities are assigned to appropriate state agencies. In addition, the 2018 Statewide Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan Update’s mitigation actions extend to federal agencies and non-governmental organizations. In accordance, the State Resiliency Office (SRO) is requested to become familiar with this Plan and prepare to discharge their responsibilities by coordinating with West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and other state agencies as required.

Finally, by my signature, I approve and promulgate the 2018 West Virginia Statewide Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan. This Plan is hereby approved for distribution and implementation.

Date: OCT 16 2018

James Conley Justice II
Governor, State of West Virginia

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