DATE: December 21, 2008
8:00 a.m.

TO: Governor Jim Doyle

FROM: Johnnie Smith
Administrator

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT ON WINTER WEATHER #3

OVERVIEW – The majority of the state remains under winter weather and wind chill advisories which are expected to remain in effect until Monday morning. Strong 20 to 25 mph west winds, with gusts up to 40 mph are causing drifting and blowing snow, creating impassable drifts on roadways and reducing visibility to as little as a quarter mile. Temperatures continue to drop into the single digits with wind chills reaching 30 to 35 below zero.

Travel is not advisable — although plows have been out most of the night, drifting snow continues to cause concern — those who MUST travel should exercise extreme caution and allow extra time to reach destinations. Travelers should inform someone of proposed travel routes and expected arrival time and travel with a winter survival kit including a flashlight, blankets, food and water, and cell phone. If stranded, motorists should stay in their vehicles and await assistance which may take several hours due to poor road conditions.

The DOT 511 Traveler Information System is running. 511 is a one-stop source for timely and easily accessible traffic and road condition information on Wisconsin’s main highways, including the Interstate system.

The State of Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center remains activated with Wisconsin Emergency Management, Wisconsin State Patrol, Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) and Wisconsin National Guard personnel monitoring the situation.

For further information, contact Wisconsin Emergency Management at 608-242-3232 or online at http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov