

March 20, 2020

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Dear Mr. President:

As the Administration, Congress and state and local governments continue their tireless work to limit the threat and spread of COVID-19, it is imperative that the industries that build, design and maintain our nation's critical infrastructure and those that provide the essential labor, materials, and support for the construction industry through roadway safety devices and equipment distribution and maintenance are able to perform the necessary work. We are mindful and appreciate the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Guidance on Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce and we are seeking further guidance for the infrastructure construction industry.

As such, we join the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce in recommending](#) that your administration issue guidance on these orders to clarify "essential infrastructure" and "essential businesses and services." As the Chamber suggested, we encourage the federal government recommend exemptions for "essential infrastructure" that allows individuals to leave their residence to provide any services or perform any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of "essential infrastructure," including, but not limited to, public works construction, airport operations, roads and highways, and public transportation.

Public works construction, roads and highways, transportation infrastructure, and the materials used for these projects are critical to our nation's ability to deliver medical supplies and services, food and goods, and clean water and energy to the American people, especially as we address this pandemic. Our collective members are already going to great lengths and following the recommended public health guidelines to ensure the infrastructure needs of our country continue to be met. Shutting down the ability of our industries to serve our nation and maintain our physical infrastructure will impact the economic viability of the entire nation, not to mention numerous businesses.

Our industries have long been critical to the vitality of our nation and the backbone of our economy. During this critical time in our nation's history, it is imperative that the construction industry is characterized as an "essential industry" exempted from any current or future mandatory shelter in place orders or quarantines. For our members and the men and women in construction, worker safety and health has always been a top priority. Rest assured it will remain that way as we continue to operate during these trying times.

Sincerely,

American Coal Ash Association
American Concrete Pavement Association
American Concrete Pipe Association

American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Concrete Pumping Association
American Council of Engineering Companies
American Road and Transportation Builders Association
American Traffic Safety Services Association
Associated Builders and Contractors
Associated General Contractors of America
Associated Equipment Distributors
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Concrete Foundations Association
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute
National Asphalt Pavement Association
National Concrete Masonry Association
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Precast Concrete Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
National Stone Sand and Gravel Association
Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute
Portland Cement Association
Tilt-Up Concrete Association

CC: The Honorable Steven Mnuchin
Secretary
Department of the Treasury

CC: The Honorable Kevin McAleenan
Acting Secretary
Department of Homeland Security

CC: All Governors