

March 30, 2020

RE: CISA Critical Infrastructure List

Dear NUCA Member:

During this pandemic flu crisis, NUCA has been at the forefront of insuring that the utility construction industry remains identified as a critical component of our national infrastructure sector. Our outreach to the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the agency responsible for securing critical U.S. infrastructure, led to the development of their "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce" advisory list, reproduced below.

The list is intended to help state and local officials ensure continuity of local water, electric, telecommunications, and transportation functions critical to public health and safety. While CISA emphasizes that this is not a federal directive or standard, but intended to be the "go-to" list for emergency planners to use for their own decisions on their state and local guidelines for business operations and employee availability. NUCA and our network of Chapters is also engaged at the state and local level to adopt a similar advisory list, and we have had many successes.

NUCA's lobbying and outreach efforts to CISA and other DHS offices was essential in obtaining this relief for our members and their communities. I wanted to insure that this information was in our member's hands. A summary of what tasks are defined as critical by DHS is provided below to NUCA members.

The [full CISA letter is available here](#) and on NUCA's pandemic flu webpage, [www.nuca.com/panflu](http://www.nuca.com/panflu). I encourage all members to visit this webpage regularly during this crisis. It contains information on federal guidelines for workplace safety, recent COVID-19 relief legislation, business continuity resources, sample pandemic flu policy documents for your company's use, COVID-19 Toolbox Talks for your safety discussions, and a wealth of other resources that can help your business survive during this public health and economic crisis.

We are here to help you during this period. We strongly encourage all NUCA members to use our online resources—they are here to help you, your business, and your employees.



DOUG CARLSON  
NUCA Chief Executive Officer

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**DHS-CISA Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response***Version 2.0 (March 28, 2020)*

The DHS-CISA list below gives advisory guidance on defining essential critical infrastructure workers. Promoting the ability of such workers to continue to work during periods of community restriction, access management, social distancing, or closure orders/directives is crucial to community resilience and continuity of essential functions.

**Water and Wastewater / Public Works**

Employees needed to operate and maintain drinking water and wastewater/drainage infrastructure, including:

- Workers repairing water and wastewater conveyances and performing required sampling or monitoring, including field staff;
- Workers who support the operation, inspection, and maintenance of essential public works facilities and operations, including bridges, water and sewer main breaks, fleet maintenance personnel, construction of critical or strategic infrastructure, traffic signal maintenance, emergency location services for buried utilities, maintenance of digital systems infrastructure supporting public works operations, and other emergent issues. Workers who support, such as road and line clearing, to ensure the availability of and access to needed facilities, transportation, energy and communications.
- Manufacturers and distributors (to include service centers and related operations) of packaging materials, pallets, crates, containers, and other supplies needed to support manufacturing, packaging staging and distribution operations.
- Workers who support the operation, inspection, and maintenance of essential public works facilities and operations, including bridges, water and sewer main breaks, fleet maintenance personnel, construction of critical or strategic infrastructure, traffic signal maintenance, emergency location services for buried utilities, maintenance of digital systems infrastructure supporting public works operations, and other emergent issues;
- Employees who repair and maintain vehicles, aircraft, rail equipment, marine vessels, bicycles, and the equipment and infrastructure that enables operations that encompass movement of cargo and passengers.
- Workers critical to rental and leasing of vehicles and equipment that facilitate continuity of operations for essential workforces and other essential travel.
- Workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, builders, contractors, HVAC Technicians, landscapers, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses and buildings such as hospitals, senior living facilities, any temporary construction required to support COVID-19 response.
- Workers who support, such as road and line clearing, to ensure the availability of and access to needed facilities, transportation, energy and communications.

**Communications**

- Engineers, technicians and associated personnel responsible for infrastructure construction and restoration, including contractors for construction and engineering of fiber optic cables, buried conduit, small cells, other wireless facilities, and other communications sector-related infrastructure. This

includes construction of new facilities and deployment of new technology as these are required to address congestion or customer usage due to unprecedented use of remote services;

- Maintenance of communications infrastructure- including privately owned and maintained communication systems and manufacturers and distributors of communications equipment;
- Installation, maintenance and repair technicians that establish, support or repair service as needed;
- Central office personnel to maintain and operate central office, data centers, and other network office facilities, critical support personnel assisting front line employees;
- Customer service and support staff, including managed and professional services as well as remote providers of support to transitioning employees to set up and maintain home offices, who interface with customers to manage or support service environments and security issues, including payroll, billing, fraud, logistics, and troubleshooting;
- Dispatchers involved with service repair and restoration;
- Retail customer service personnel at critical service center locations for onboarding customers, distributing and repairing equipment and addressing customer issues in order to support individuals' remote emergency communications needs, supply chain and logistics personnel to ensure goods and products are on-boarded to provision these front-line employees; and
- External Affairs personnel to assist in coordinating with local, state and federal officials to address communications needs supporting COVID-19 response, public safety, and national security.

### **Electricity Industry**

- Workers who maintain, ensure, or restore, or are involved in the development, transportation, fuel procurement, expansion, or operation of the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric power, including call centers, utility workers, engineers, retail electricity, constraint maintenance, and fleet maintenance technicians- who cannot perform their duties remotely;
- Workers at renewable energy infrastructure (including, but not limited to wind, solar, biomass, hydrogen, geothermal, and/or hydroelectric), including those supporting construction, manufacturing, transportation,
- Permitting, operation/maintenance, monitoring, and logistics;
- Workers at generation, transmission, and electric black start facilities;
- Mutual assistance personnel which may include workers from outside of the state or local jurisdiction; and
- Environmental remediation/monitoring workers limited to immediate critical needs technicians.

### **Natural Gas**

- Transmission and distribution pipeline workers, including compressor stations and any other required, operations maintenance, construction, and support for natural gas, natural gas liquid, propane, and other liquid fuels;
- Supporting new and existing construction projects, including, but not limited to, pipeline construction;
- Natural gas, propane, natural gas liquids, and other liquid fuel processing plants, including construction, maintenance, and support operations;
- Workers who support onshore and offshore drilling operations, natural gas and natural gas liquid production, processing, extraction, storage and transportation; platform and drilling construction and maintenance; transportation (including helicopter operations); maritime transportation, supply, and

dredging operations; maritime navigation; well intervention, monitoring, automation and control; waste disposal, and maintenance, construction, and operations;

- Natural gas processing plants workers, and those that deal with natural gas liquids; and
- Workers in fuel sectors (including, but not limited to nuclear, coal, and gas types and liquid fuels) supporting the mining, manufacturing, logistics, transportation, permitting, operation/maintenance, and monitoring of support for resources.

### **Transportation and Logistics**

- Employees supporting or enabling transportation functions, including truck drivers, bus drivers, dispatchers, maintenance and repair technicians, warehouse workers, and towing/recovery services;
- Workers including truck drivers, railroad employees and contractors, maintenance crew, and cleaners supporting transportation of chemicals, hazardous, medical, and waste materials to support critical infrastructure, capabilities, functions, and services, including specialized carriers, crane and rigging industry workers;
- Automotive repair, maintenance, and transportation equipment manufacturing and distribution facilities;
- Manufacturers and distributors of packaging materials, pallets, crates, containers, and other supplies needed to support manufacturing, packaging staging and distribution operations; and
- Workers critical to rental and leasing of vehicles and equipment that facilitate continuity of operations for essential workforces and other essential travel.

### **Critical Manufacturing**

- Workers necessary for the manufacturing of metals (including steel and aluminum), industrial minerals, semiconductors, materials and products needed for medical supply chains, and for supply chains associated with transportation, energy, communications, information technology, food and agriculture, chemical manufacturing, nuclear facilities, wood products, commodities used as fuel for power generation facilities, the operation of dams, water and wastewater treatment, processing and reprocessing of solid waste, emergency services, and the defense industrial base. Additionally, workers needed to maintain the continuity of these manufacturing functions and associated supply chains, and workers necessary to maintain a manufacturing operation in warm standby;
- Workers supporting the energy sector, regardless of the energy source (including but not limited to nuclear, fossil, hydroelectric, or renewable), segment of the system, or infrastructure the worker is involved in, or who are needed to monitor, operate, engineer, and maintain the reliability, safety, environmental health, and physical and cyber security of the energy system;
- Providing services related to energy sector fuels (including, but not limited, petroleum (crude oil), natural gas, propane, natural gas liquids, other liquid fuels, nuclear, and coal), supporting the mining, processing, manufacturing, construction, logistics, transportation, permitting, operation/maintenance, security, waste disposal and storage, and monitoring of support for resources; and
- Manufacturing and distribution of equipment, supplies, and parts necessary to maintain production, maintenance, restoration, and service at energy sector facilities (across all energy sector segments).

(The entire original DHS-CISA document can also be found at [www.nuca.com/panflu](http://www.nuca.com/panflu).)