

April 21, 2020

The Honorable Ned Lamont
Governor, Connecticut

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo
Governor, New York

The Honorable John Carney
Governor, Delaware

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor, Pennsylvania

The Honorable Charlie Baker
Governor, Massachusetts

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Governor Rhode Island

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor, New Jersey

RE: Reopening Your Economies Responsibly with the Construction Industry

Dear Governors:

The undersigned associations and businesses represent the builders, trades, manufacturers and distributors that make up the residential and commercial construction industry in your states. As you come together to develop a plan for a coordinated reopening of your states' economies, we ask that the construction industry and the supply chain that directly support it be identified in your plan as a business activity that is essential and can operate safely in accordance with the appropriate government guidelines and required COVID-19 mitigation protocols. Such a determination is warranted for the following reasons:

The construction industry has well established safety protocols that will keep workers safe. Worker safety and jobsite best practice is a priority focus throughout the industry. The trade associations representing the construction trades have extensive training and education programs available that are frequently the product of coordination with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA"). Individual builders and companies make worker safety their first focus.

Construction activities can be conducted while maintaining social distancing. The majority of construction sites can comply with social distancing guidelines by restricting access to the public and non-essential personnel. The number of essential workers on jobsites can be controlled by restricting the number of trades present at one time or staggering shift changes and other schedules. These measures keep carpenters, drywall hangers, painters, plumbers, roofers, insulators, HVAC installers and others both employed and safe.

The construction industry is committed to additional worker training. In response to the COVID-19 health crisis, the Construction Industry Safety Coalition developed a [detailed plan](#) to outline the steps that every employer and employee can take to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Additional examples of this type of industry stewardship can be found in the [residential](#) and [commercial](#) sectors. The construction industry will continue to innovate how it

operates so that it can protect workers and the public while continuing to build homes and structures safely.

Construction and construction-related manufacturing is recognized as essential in guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency has issued guidance on those workers who are essential to continued critical infrastructure viability. Construction and its supply chain are included in that guidance, which has been adopted by the majority of state-issued "stay at home" orders.

Construction and manufacturing will propel the economic recovery. Housing is currently 14.6 percent of the Gross Domestic Product of the United States and is a major engine of the economy. Keeping this industry open for business moderates the current economic crisis and provides a foundation for the future recovery. New home construction also addresses the housing affordability crisis. The commercial construction sector is equally integral to the economic recovery in your states and is responsible for the vertical infrastructure that was in dire need of repair and construction pre-crisis. The industry's worker shortage also offers an opportunity to put your state's workforces back on their feet.

We greatly appreciate your leadership in steering your states and this country through this great health and economic crisis.

Sincerely,

ABS Southeast (Fairport, NY)
Accurate Insulation (Dover, DE)
Air Conditioning Contractors of America
All in One/Moore Insulation (West Boylston, MA)
American Building Systems (Rochester, NY)
American Chemistry Council's Spray Foam Coalition
American Coatings Association
American Window and Door Manufacturers
Applegate Insulation (Chambersburg, PA)
Aside Building Supply (Old Bethpage, NY)
Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association
Associated Materials
Atlas Roofing Corporation (Camp Hill, PA)
BASF Corporation
Beacon
Builders Installed Products (Albany, NY)
Cambria Glass and Insulation (Johnstown, PA)
Cameron Ashley Building Products (Lebanon, PA)
Cape Insulation Company (Ocean View, NJ)
Carlisle Construction Materials (Carlisle, PA)
Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau (Northport, NY)
Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association
CertainTeed

Chemical Council of New Jersey
CleanFiber (Buffalo, New York)
Coastal Insulation (East Windsor, NJ)
Concrete Block Insulating Systems (West Brookfield, MA))
Covestro LLC (Pittsburgh, PA)
Cluss Professional Insulation (Uniontown, PA)
Custom Insulation (Worcester, MA)
Delaware Chemistry Industry Council
Delfino Insulation Company (Bohemia, NY)
Dupont Specialty Products USA
Ecologic Energy Solutions (Stamford, CT)
Eastern Contractor Services (Flanders, NJ)
Energy Smart Home Improvement (Carlisle, PA)
EPDM Roofing Association
EPS Industry Alliance
Evergreen Construction Associates (Dillsburg, PA)
Fairway
Fox Cluss Glass Company (Uniontown, PA)
GAF Materials Corporation (Parsippany, NJ)
G. Fedale Roofing and Siding
IDI of Connecticut (Norwalk, CT)
IDI of Boston (Foxboro, MA)
IDI of Long Island (Edgewood, NY)

IDI of Pennsylvania (Bethlehem, PA)
IKO Productions, Inc.
Installed Building Products
Insulate America (Wilmington, DE)
International Cellulose Corporation
Insulation Contractors Association of America
International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants
JB Insulation and Drywall (Oakland, NJ)
Johns Manville
Kaycan
K-Bin
Knauf
KP Building Products
KWP Building Products
Leading Builders of America
MaGrann Insulation (Voorhees, NJ)
MAP Installed Building Products (Sagamore Beach, MA)
Massachusetts Chemical and Technology Alliance
Metal Construction Association
MIG Building Systems (East Rochester, NY)
Morris Black and Son (Allentown, PA)
National Insulation Association
National Nail (Syracuse, NY)
National Roofing Contractors Association
NY State Roofers and Sheet Metal Contractors Assoc.
New York State Chemistry Council
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
North/East Roofing Contractors Assoc. (Braintree, MA)
Northwind Insulation (Orchard Park, NY)
O.C. Cluss Lumber Company (Uniontown, PA)
O'Sullivan's Installs (North Billerica, MA)
Owens Corning
Pennsylvania Builders Association
Plumbing Manufacturers International
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association
Reilly Insulation (Willow Grove, PA)
Rocket Insulation & Coatings (Ronkonkoma, NY)
Roof Coatings Manufacturers Association
Royal Building Products
Shintech
Single Ply Roofing Industry
SOPREMA USA, Inc. (Newark, NJ)
Spray Foam NY (Howard Beach, NY)
Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance
SRS
Structural Insulated Panel Association
Tarco Roofing (Greencastle, PA)
The Roofing Contractors' Assoc. (Philadelphia, PA)
Tile Roofing Industry Alliance
Town Insulation (Sanborn, NY)
Uniboard
US GreenFiber (Wilkes Barre, PA)
US Insulation (West Hartford, CT)
Vinyl Siding Institute
Weather Seal Insulation (Pine Brook, NJ)
Weather Shield (Mechanicsburg, PA)
Window World
XPSA
1st State Insulation (Greenwood, DE)