



June 19, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) issues this letter to facilitate work in the interest of homeland security by Chemical Sector workers identified as essential by an appropriate jurisdiction, informed by the CISA Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers advisory guidance, dated May 19, 2020.¹ CISA requests any courtesy that can be extended to essential workers involved in operations, maintenance and restoration of Chemical Sector facilities **in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and any other regional disasters (e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, earthquakes) that may occur during any COVID-19 response phase.**

CISA developed the **Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers** advisory guidance to identify workers that conduct a range of operations and services deemed essential to continued critical infrastructure viability. This list is intended to support state, local, tribal, and territorial officials' decision-making as they work to protect their communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security.

CISA acknowledges that state, local, tribal, and territorial officials may use this guidance to provide to such workers considerations such as access to jobsites and movement across jurisdictions, priority and access to testing and personal protective equipment, exclusion from curfews, etc. The consideration for permissible movement and access request herein is based on the judgment of an appropriate official, informed by CISA guidance, that organizations affiliated with the Chemical Sector engage in activity that could reasonably be included within the scope of "critical infrastructure" as that term is defined in law; and that operation and maintenance activities related to manufacturing, distributing, transporting, warehousing, and storing chemicals (to include pharmaceuticals, basic chemicals, specialty chemicals, agricultural chemicals, consumer products, and their associated supply chains) are of paramount importance during this response and recovery period. In the course of performing these activities, identified Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers in the Chemical Sector should be able to travel to and access necessary critical infrastructure facilities in order to maintain safe and reliable operations of those facilities consistent with the rules in place of the appropriate jurisdiction.

CISA greatly appreciates your cooperation. For any questions or concerns related to our guidance, please contact the CISA at 888-282-0870 or Central@cisa.gov.

Sincerely,

Christopher C. Krebs
Director
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

¹ "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce," Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, <https://www.cisa.gov/publication/guidance-essential-critical-infrastructure-workforce>.