To whom it may concern,

I am writing to support the requests of other industry representatives regarding the inclusion of the roofing industry in the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers guidance.

The roofing industry is essential to protecting the many buildings that are currently providing critical support to the country’s response to COVID-19. The products we manufacture and install help ensure the continued operation of hospitals, grocery stores, state and local emergency facilities, and other businesses and manufacturing processes.

The roofing industry may fall under the Public Works section of the document, specifically the mention of “construction of critical and strategic infrastructure” in the second bullet point and “...other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences” in the third bullet point. Additionally, the roofing industry may be included in Other Community-Based Government Operations and Essential Functions category under the bullet point “Workers to ensure continuity of building functions.”

However, to provide proper guidance to the roofing industry and because of our role in protecting the public, roofing should be expressly mentioned. The language in bullet point three of the Public Works section be changed to say: “Workers such as plumbers, electricians, roofing industry companies, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences.”

For these reasons, we ask that the roofing industry companies, including manufacturers and their raw material suppliers, distributors, and roofing contractors be added to the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers guidance in the form of the suggested language above. This clarification would be helpful as our industry works with local and state governments to protect the American public during this crisis.

We stand with you and appreciate your leadership on this very important issue.

Regards,
Ellen Thorp

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