



March 20, 2020

**TO: U.S. Governors**

Dear Governors,

I am writing today on behalf of the demolition industry which is absolutely essential to the COVID-19 response and the domestic American economy. As the country continues to stop the spread of COVID-19, we are seeing state and local governments promulgating quarantine orders and mandatory business closures. NDA supports your efforts to enact reasonable requirements to address the pandemic, and we urge you to ensure that demolition and remediation contractors, recycling businesses, and other related businesses remain open for business.

As you implement decisions on a COVID-19 response, NDA urges you to designate demolition, recycling, remediation, and related businesses as important businesses and “essential”. We further emphasize that these designations should protect these businesses from any mandatory shelter in place, stay home, or closure orders.

To further support our position, we would like to note that California Governor Gavin Newsom has already agreed with our association and issued the following statement:

*"The California State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health is ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence, except as **needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors**, critical government services, schools, childcare, and **construction**, including housing construction."<sup>1</sup>*

There is a vital need for construction, demolition and remediation services across the U.S., including decontamination of affected areas, remediation of environmental hazards or contaminated property to ensure vital services, including hospitals and emergency services remain open. In light of this, we respectfully urge you to specifically include this industry as “essential”, which will simultaneously protect the public and keep your local economies strong.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. Please contact me at [jlambert@demolitionassociation.com](mailto:jlambert@demolitionassociation.com) with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Lambert", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jeff Lambert  
CEO  
National Demolition Association

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.19.20-EO-N-33-20-COVID-19-HEALTH-ORDER-03.19.2020-signed.pdf>