

Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health

10025 Jasper Avenue NW PO Box 1360, Stn. Main Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N3 Canada

June 30, 2020

Sector Exemption: Petroleum, Natural gas, and Coal

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Alberta a public health emergency was declared in the Province of Alberta on March 17, 2020 pursuant to s. 52.1 of the Public Health Act of Alberta.

Further to that declaration of a public health emergency the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), pursuant to her authority under s. 29(2.1) of the Public Health Act, made CMOH Order 05-2020 (the Order) identifying steps to prohibit persons from attending any location for any time period and subject to any conditions, any activity that could transmit an infectious agent as well as any other steps to lessen the impact of a public health emergency. A copy of the Order is attached for your reference.

Pursuant to the Order the CMOH may exempt in writing persons or classes of persons from the operation of the Order if they are "essential service workers".

The Office of CMOH has determined that certain individuals/classes of persons providing goods or services for the sectors identified in this exemption should be exempt from the Order because these persons are considered "essential service workers".

Pursuant to Section 9 of the Order I am satisfied that the following classes of persons are "essential services workers" as per Section 9(a) of the Order and that the other two requirements of Section 9(b) and (c) have also been met. As such, the classes of persons identified below are exempt from the Quarantine provisions set out in Section 3(a) of the Order subject to the following conditions:

- I. Subject to paragraphs II, III, IV and V below employees, contractors and subcontractors of companies or of their subsidiaries that are involved in petroleum, natural gas, and coal industries as described in the attached Appendix A who have been designated as essential to the operations of their company and must travel to or from Canada to provide essential services that support critical infrastructure that is necessary to the operations of their company's interests in Alberta or outside of Canada.
- II. Upon entry to Canada the persons identified in paragraph I shall Quarantine themselves in accordance with the Order except that they may be permitted to leave the Quarantine premises where their company to whom they provide services that the persons' services are needed to maintain critical infrastructure

in Alberta. If during this time period the persons have a confirmed case of COVID 19 or exhibit COVID 19 symptoms as per paragraph IV then they must Quarantine themselves in accordance with paragraph III of this Order.

- III. The essential services workers must assess their health and if they have a confirmed case of COVID 19 or exhibit COVID 19 symptoms before or after crossing into Canada from another country must be in Isolation as per Sections 1 and 2 of Order 05-2020 which requires them to postpone travel to or from Canada for 10 days, or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.
- IV. COVID 19 symptoms that would result in a postponement of travel by an essential services worker includes a cough, fever, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, runny nose, or sore throat that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition.
- V. If exempt from Quarantine per the terms of this Order and if providing services within Alberta during the period when the persons should have been in Quarantine, the exempted persons must follow appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) guidelines including wearing a mask at all times when outside of their accommodation.

Although the persons identified above are exempt from Quarantine per Section 3(a) of the Order the companies to whom these persons provide services should continue to promote appropriate hygiene, social distancing, and other measures identified by public health authorities to protect these persons and Albertans from further transmission of COVID-19.

Persons exempted from Quarantine per Section 3(a) of the Order are still subject to any other applicable directions or other provisions that apply to "essential service workers" in Alberta.

The exemption provided by this letter may be terminated or modified by the CMOH in writing without notice at any time and for any reason as determined by the CMOH.

This exemption comes into effect on June 30, 2020 and continues until terminated by the CMOH.

We trust this is satisfactory.

Yours Sincerely

Deena Hinshaw, BSc, MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCP

Chief Medical Officer of Health

Appendix A - Petroleum, Natural gas, and Coal

- Petroleum product storage, pipeline, terminals, rail transport, road transport
- Crude oil storage facilities and pipeline transport
- Petroleum refinery facilities
- Petroleum security operations centre employees and workers who support emergency response services
- Petroleum operations control rooms/centres
- Petroleum drilling, extraction, production, servicing, processing, refining, terminal operations, transporting and retail for use as end-use fuels or feedstocks for chemical manufacturing
- Operations for maintenance and emergency response
- Retail fuel centres such as gas stations and truck stops, and the distribution systems that support them
- Natural gas transmission and distribution pipelines, including compressor stations
- Underground storage of natural gas
- Natural gas processing plants, and those that deal with natural gas liquids
- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities
- Natural gas security operations centres, natural gas operations dispatch and control rooms/centres natural gas emergency response and customer emergencies, including natural gas leak calls
- Drilling, production, processing, servicing and transporting natural gas for use as end-use fuels, feedstocks for chemical manufacturing, or use in electricity generation
- Propane gas dispatch and control rooms and emergency response and customer emergencies, including propane leak calls
- Propane gas service maintenance and restoration, including call centres
- Processing, refining and transporting natural liquids, including propane gas, for use as end-use fuels or feedstocks for chemical manufacturing
- Propane gas storage, transmission and distribution centres
- Workers necessary for the manufacturing of necessary materials and products for energy
- 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 and natural gas, including call

centres, control and storage facilities, suppliers, utility workers, reliability engineers and fleet maintenance technicians.