



May 27, 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 Communications Sector workers identified in 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 communications infrastructure operations, maintenance and restoration **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 identifying 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.

In developing this advisory guidance, CISA determined that essential workers need access to jobsites based on our judgment that organizations affiliated with the Communications Sector engage in activity that could reasonably be included within the scope of "critical infrastructure" as that term is defined in law; and critical communications infrastructure is necessary to ensure first responder, emergency responder, and 911 communications capabilities are functional during this response and recovery period. In the course of providing this support, identified Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers in the Communications Sector should be able to travel to and access necessary critical infrastructure facilities in order to prevent loss of service or restore critical communications services.

CISA greatly appreciates your cooperation. For any questions or concerns related to this request, please contact the CISA at 888-282-0870 or CISAservicedesk@cisa.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher C. Krebs".

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>.