



AGC

THE CONSTRUCTION
ASSOCIATION

STEPHEN E. SANDHERR, Chief Executive Officer

March 4, 2020

Ms. Tracy Marcinowski
Assistant Commissioner for Acquisitions, Public Buildings Service
U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Guidance on the Outbreak of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear Ms. Marcinowski:

The Associated General Contractors of America (“AGC”) is a nationwide trade association of construction companies and related firms. Indeed, it has more than 27,000 members in 88 chapters stretching from Puerto Rico to Hawaii. These companies construct both public and private buildings and a wide variety of heavy, highway and other transportation projects. Among these projects are many federal projects, specifically including the facilities and infrastructure that U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) requires to fulfill its critical mission.

As COVID-19 makes its way across Asia and Europe, and establishes a beach head even here in the United States, these AGC companies are taking a hard look at how the outbreak could affect their upcoming projects for both GSA and other project owners. As they do, and they begin to develop that any contingency plans that the facts may warrant, they would more than appreciate any guidance that your agency can provide on its plans for dealing with the potential effects of the outbreak, such as the following:

- (i) Disruptions of the supply chains for the components required to manufacture the materials that your agency specifies; and
- (ii) Quarantines or other factors that could restrict the supply of construction craftworkers in a particular location.

In this regard, AGC would note that the Atlantic Command of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command recently issued the enclosed notice that the command will not provide any personnel returning from China with access to its construction projects for a period of fourteen days, starting from the day of departure from China. Similar guidance on other issues, including but not limited to the circumstances under which your agency would prefer contractors to provide notice of any potential delays or disruptions, would be extremely helpful.

In closing, let me just add that AGC would be more than pleased to meet with you to discuss the any specific steps that either your agency or AGC companies might take to facilitate an ongoing exchange of information and to mitigate the impact that the outbreak of COVID-19 could have on the construction of your agency’s projects.

Sincerely,

Stephen E. Sandherr

Enclosure