



MEMBER BULLETIN

March 24, 2020

Essential Workplace List during COVID19 Economic Shutdown

On Monday, March 23, the Government of Ontario ordered the mandatory closure of all non-essential workplaces in the province to fight the spread of the COVID19 virus. As part of this closure, the province announced that a number of industries and sectors deemed to be “essential” by the government would be exempted. The construction industry, broadly, has been included in this “exempted industry” list.

The full list can be found at the following link: <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/3/list-of-essential-workplaces.html>.

The sewer and watermain (S&W) construction sector is encapsulated in a number of indistinct sections of this list, but government officials have confirmed it is captured.

In the “Construction” and “Utilities and Community Services” sections below, S&W is capture in:

- #27, “construction projects....to ensure the safe and reliable operations of critical provincial infrastructure...”. Which is to be interpreted as “infrastructure in the province” rather than “provincially-owned infrastructure.”
- #28, subdivision work is captured.
- #41, which identifies businesses that support services needed for the delivery of utilities.

Construction

26. Construction projects and services associated with the healthcare sector, including new facilities, expansions, renovations and conversion of spaces that could be repurposed for health care space;

27. Construction projects and services required to ensure safe and reliable operations of critical provincial infrastructure, including transit, transportation, energy and justice sectors beyond the day-to-day maintenance;



28. Construction work and services, including demolition services, in the industrial, commercial, institutional and residential sectors;

29. Construction work and services that supports health and safety environmental rehabilitation projects

Utilities and Community Services

41. Utilities, and Businesses that support the provision of utilities and community services, including by providing products, materials and services needed for the delivery of utilities and community services:

- a. Waste Collection, Waste/ Sewage Treatment and Disposal, operation of landfills, and Hazardous Waste Disposal;
- b. Potable drinking water;
- c. Electricity Generation, transmission, distribution and storage;
- d. Natural Gas distribution, transmission and storage,
- e. Road construction and maintenance;
- f. police, fire, emergency services including coroner services and pathology services;
- g. corrections and courts services;
- h. other government services including licenses and permits;

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick McManus (905-629-7766 ext. 222 or patrick.mcmanus@oswca.org).