



March 25, 2020

Please see the attached FAQs from the Oregon State Police relating to the Governor's Executive Order 20-12, "Stay Home, Save Lives."

In addition, attached is a generic letter NECA has drafted that you could provide to your employees, in the event of a lock down, stating that they are employed in an essential service and are able to be at work per the executive order. This should be a good starting point. You will need to amend to fit your specific needs. You should add your company name with an officer's name/signature and place on company letterhead.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you



## Oregon State Police Emergency Declaration Enforcement FAQ

**Date 03/24/2020**

**In an attempt to answer frequently asked questions relating to the enforcement of the Governor's Executive Order 20-12 "*Stay Home, Save Lives,*" the Oregon State Police is offering guidance.**

### **Is this martial law?**

No, not even close. There are no curfews and a person's movements are not restricted under the Governor's Executive Order. While details are offered in the order relating to social distancing, specific business closures and non-essential social gatherings- Oregonian's movements are generally unrestricted.

### **Do I need documentation from my employer deeming me essential?**

No. The Governor's Executive Order closes certain businesses, outlined in section (2). These businesses reflect operations that would make close contact difficult or impossible to avoid. Officers are not asking or looking for any type of special paperwork from your employer.

### **Do I need a special placard on my car, when going to work or if I drive for work?**

No. There is no special documentation or placards for people going to work or permitted activities.

### **Will I be pulled over for driving on the highway?**

Not for violation of the Governor's Executive Order, which specifically outlines efforts to avoid large gatherings- not restrict the movement of Oregonians. If, however, you are committing a traffic violation or crime that would be enforced independent of the order, you may be stopped, like any other day.

### **Are the state lines closed and are there roadblocks?**

No, traffic is moving freely within Oregon and our border states. There are no roadblocks or restrictions of vehicle movement. Washington State is operating under a similar executive order from their Governor, so Oregonians should be aware of these provisions when traveling in their state.

### **If my business is closed, can I still go to work if my employer makes me? Won't I be arrested?**

While the order prohibits the public from congregating at a closed business, the employer may still have work to do on site. As long as employees are not conducting business that is prohibited by the Executive Order, it is okay to still be at the worksite. No "passes" or paperwork is required.

### **Are rest areas open?**

Yes, generally. Some rest areas are connected to parks, which are currently closed to comply with the Executive Order.

### **Are police arresting or ticketing people in public or in violation of the Governor's Executive Order?**

People that violate the Governor's Order in an Emergency Declaration could be arrested or cited, which is a C Misdemeanor- the lowest level of criminal conduct designation. All Oregon law enforcement are united on the premise that police action is extremely undesirable and we hope to educate Oregonians if congregating in violation of the Governor's Order. Citation or arrest would be an extreme last resort if a person failed to comply with the lawful direction of a police officer.

### **What about my kids that may congregate in a place without my permission, like a skate park?**

Police know our children don't often take their parent's advice and may ignore direction when away. Like adults found to be congregating in a location, officers will likely approach the youths and educate them on the order. Citations and arrest are extremely unlikely, reserved for only the most extreme circumstances.

**Can I still go hiking and fishing?**

Yes. Oregonians can still recreate outdoors, if their recreational activity involves non-contact with others and they can maintain appropriate social distancing- which is defined as 6 feet or more from others. Oregonians and visitors to our state should be aware most campgrounds and boat ramps are closed, so you should research your plans before recreating.

**Should I call 911 if I see people congregating?**

No. The level of this violation is not for reporting police, fire or medical emergencies through 911. People may choose to self-educate their fellow Oregonians or if a large gathering is noted, they may call their respective police agency's non-emergency number.

**VENDOR in support of Critical Industry  
Energy: Electrical Contracting Industry  
Authorization to Travel Regardless of the Time of Day**

**Federal Response Directive/State (Local) Response Directive**

To Whom It May Concern:

The individual in possession of this letter supports our Electrical Contracting Industry and must travel to and from work and engage in his or her work activities regardless of the time of day as a vendor in the Energy Sector, which has been deemed by the U.S. Government and the State of \_\_\_\_ and/or Locality \_\_\_\_ as critical to the infrastructure of the United States.

The Electrical Contracting Industry is essential for the continued function of the economy in this time of crisis. Such workers who maintain, ensure, or restore the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric power, including call centers, utility workers, reliability engineers and fleet maintenance technicians are included within this Sector. It is essential to the nation's Energy Sector that this individual be permitted to proceed to or from his or her job or to otherwise perform his or her job function.

The Energy Sector been designated a "Critical Infrastructure Segment" under Presidential Policy Directive 21 and Department of Homeland Security emergency readiness programs implementing the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001. 42 U.S.C. § 5195c(e). It has also been deemed essential under State [ ] and/or Local [ ]. It is therefore the policy of the United States government and the State of [ ] and or Locality of [ ] that the Electrical Contracting Industry continue to function with minimal disruption in the event of an emergency.

Furthermore, in a March 16, 2020 guidance, the President of the United States instructed employees of Critical Infrastructure Industries, including the Energy sector, to continue to perform their normal job functions during the coronavirus pandemic.

As such, the individual in possession of this letter is a "critical infrastructure industry employee" in direct support of the Electrical Contracting Industry and the Energy Sector and should be considered exempt from local restrictions such as curfews, shelter-in-place orders, and other mobility restrictions when reporting to, returning from, or performing his or her work functions.

We ask that you allow this individual to continue with his or her job in the interest of protecting public health and security.

Electrical Contractor Name  
Name  
Address