



BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
of Philadelphia

*The following message was issued from PBA this evening. As discussed on the BIA member call this morning, some of our members have received such notices.*

Today, contractors across Pennsylvania began receiving letters from the Governor that dramatically changes the guidance on what builders can and cannot do. The letters inform the recipients that their work going forward should be confined to the same narrow categories currently outlined in DCED's Life-Sustaining Business FAQ, # 20 - <https://www.scribd.com/document/452553495/UPDATED-4-00pm-April-1-2020-Life-Sustaining-Business-FAQs>. We anticipate that most if not all those who received waiver approvals will receive similar letters in the next few days. Among other things, the letter states that:

If you previously received a notification from [ra-dcexemption@pa.gov](mailto:ra-dcexemption@pa.gov) informing you that your request for an exemption was denied, granted or that no exemption was required, please note that this notification replaces that previous guidance.

The letters are signed by both the Governor and the Secretary of Health. Subsequent correspondence between PBA and the Governor's Legislative Affairs staff have confirmed the interpretation stated above. The Governor's Office wishes to limit all residential construction to site stabilization, temporarily prevent weather damage and emergency repairs.

The full text of the standard letter is attached. Given the new treatment of construction waivers and the Governor's new order upgrading his stay in place order to every county, it is unlikely to matter so much that the FAQ have also added a deadline for any waiver requests. **The new deadline is 5:00 p.m. on April 3<sup>rd</sup> (#2).**

Since the shutdown began, we have advised members to seek out waivers. With the latest changes, we can no longer encourage you to participate in a process that does not appear calculated to provide your business with any relief. Of course, you should always make your decisions based on the individual circumstances of your own business.

Obviously, the rules pertaining to this area have changed. They may change again. If so, we will do our best to inform you of those changes.

Dan Durden, CEO  
Pennsylvania Builders Association

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Thank you,

Building Industry Association of Philadelphia

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