



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of South Carolina

PO Box 11937 . Columbia, SC 29211 . 803-771-4271 . www.acecsc.org

The Honorable Governor Henry McMaster
1100 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC 29201

The American Council of Engineering Companies of South Carolina (ACEC-SC) is thankful for your leadership during these hard times, and we do not envy you for the hard decisions you are facing daily due to the COVID19 pandemic.

ACEC-SC is concerned about state and local governments shutting down operations, along with major sectors of our private economy and their ability to sustain during these difficult times. We are equally concerned that many businesses we take for granted may not come out of this, or will take considerable time to get back up on their feet. Therefore, the engineering community that we represent would request that you consider design and construction essential services that need to continue during the critical times we face. Our firms and their engineers and staff are dedicated to the health, safety, and welfare of the public and their employees. Safety is their number one priority and many, if not all the firms we are familiar with are following CDC guidelines. Though they work both in offices and in the field, we believe what they are doing is essential. We have as many people working remotely as possible (as we both are currently), but when they need to be in the field, they are adhering to their own style of social distancing.

ACEC-SC thinks the following are essential to infrastructure: engineering, construction inspection, public works construction, construction both vertical and horizontal, education and education support facilities, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, flood control and water conservation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications.

Engineering firms and their employees play an important role in improving the critical infrastructure all of us depend on every day, and especially during these times we find ourselves in.

Again, we respectfully request engineering services be considered essential to the health, safety and welfare of the public and therefore, not be restricted in the performance of their work.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership in these trying times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Overstreet".

Keith Overstreet
Chairman of the Board
ACEC-SC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam B. Jones".

Adam B. Jones
Executive Director
ACEC-SC

CC:

Speaker of the House: Representative Jay Lucas
President of the Senate: Senator Harvey Peeler