

**A MEMBERS-ONLY VERSION OF THIS MEMO WITH PPE SUPPLIER INFORMATION WAS DISTRIBUTED ON APRIL 27, 2020.
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To: NOPA Members
Date: Monday, April 27, 2020
Re: Guidance on Use & Availability of PPE

Guidance on Use & Availability of Personal Protective Equipment During Pandemic

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Supply Chain Task Force participated in a cross-sector coordination call hosted by DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency Friday, April 10 to discuss the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by non-medical sectors. Guidance on mask alternatives to reduce N95 demand and PPE preservation techniques is being developed for essential employees working in non-medical sectors.

On April 21, the Food & Ag Sector Coordinating Council (FA-SCC) issued a list of PPE suppliers that have or soon will have significant quantities of PPE available, including non-medical-grade facemasks (including cloth masks) and are prepared to receive requests from entities within the food and agriculture sector that have an immediate need for PPE which cannot be satisfied through their existing distributors. Importantly, FEMA has contacted these distributors urging them to prioritize food and agriculture sector needs immediately behind the health care and medical sector, whenever possible. The list of companies that may be able to provide PPE was distributed to NOPA members on April 27.

In issuing this list, FEMA stated that some companies already may have agreements in place with one or more of these distributors. Such companies are encouraged to reach out to their existing points of contact to explore options that may be available to meet their immediate and future needs, recognizing that doing so may necessitate having agreements with multiple distributors.

To more effectively adjudicate resources throughout the nation and private industry, a National Resource Prioritization Cell (NRPC) has been established to unify government and private industry prioritization recommendations which will inform federal, state and private sector operations.

Separately, the FA-SCC leadership has developed a prioritization document that provides a framework for both members of the food and agriculture sector and distributors that provide PPE, disinfectants, and sanitation supplies. This group is working with FEMA and the NRPC. NOPA will provide an update on this issue as more information becomes available.