

March 20, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
State Capitol
1303 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Irrigation Association is the national trade association representing companies that manufacture, distribute, install and maintain landscape irrigation systems and technologies. With a mission to “promote efficient irrigation,” our goal is to ensure our nation’s water infrastructure is protected, while maintaining the health our nation’s landscapes.

The landscape irrigation industry stands with the federal, state and local governments during the COVID-19 public health emergency. We thank you for all you are doing to keep Californians safe, while ensuring critical services are readily available to those in need. It’s imperative that our citizens have access to services that keep them safe and our nation’s infrastructure reliable.

While landscape irrigation is a core component to managing many of our nation’s parks, as well as commercial and residential landscapes, it’s also a core component of our nation’s water infrastructure. Many homes rely on the public water supply for irrigation; the science, technologies and engineering behind an irrigation system keeps our public water supply and the customer’s water supply safe, while ensuring our communities are safer through a living managed landscape.

With the public’s health, safety and welfare in mind, we thank you for clarifying your original executive order to include construction and residential construction as exemptions. Landscape construction is a vital component to our nation’s natural resources and we thank you for that inclusion to ensure our communities’ safety and wellbeing.


California is a leader among innovation and technology development. And when it comes to landscape irrigation water management technologies, it continues to be a global leader. To ensure that California’s water supply, as well as Californians’ home drinking water supplies, are safe, we request that the government of the state of California continue to allow landscape irrigation technologies to be

manufactured and sold to support the continued construction throughout California. This is critical as we enter the spring months.

Our industry is taking significant steps to ensure their businesses are being run in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health guidelines. The Irrigation Association continues to be a resource for our members, the industry and the government in protecting our public's health.

We stand with you in addressing this public health emergency, while providing these essential services to support California's critical infrastructure. If you have any questions, please contact me at johnfarner@irrigation.org. Thank you for your leadership during this public health emergency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Farner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John Farner
Government and Public Affairs Director