



February 25, 2021

Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH  
Director  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Director Walensky:

Our associations, which represent the nation's trucking fleets, truck drivers, truckstops and travel plazas, applaud your efforts to boost the vaccine supply and ensure the rapid dissemination of COVID-19 vaccines across the country.

We stand ready to assist in President Biden's goal of vaccinating 100 million people in 100 days. As such, we ask you to designate truckstops and travel plazas as mobile vaccination sites so that we can leverage our existing operations and locations across the country to distribute vaccines to professional truck drivers and truckstop employees.

From the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, our industries have been directly involved in the fight against this pandemic. Trucking and truckstop employees are included on the list of "essential critical infrastructure workers" issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in its "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce."

The Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency recognized early on the importance of our industries to ensure Americans had food in markets, fuel at gas stations, and safe places for truck drivers to stop as they haul essential items across the country.

The very nature of the trucking, truckstop and travel plaza industries allows us a unique opportunity to have an immediate and meaningful impact on the distribution of vaccines to these essential employees.

Truckstops and travel plazas serve as the home away from home for the nation's 3 million professional truck drivers. Truckstops are specifically designed to meet the needs of truck drivers who often are on the road for hundreds of days each year crossing state lines and generally unable to access other facilities, including medical sites, while driving a Class 8 tractor trailer.

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Utilizing truckstops and travel plazas as mobile vaccination sites would alleviate significant challenges that truck drivers currently face in receiving an expedient vaccine. Many states, for example, currently require proof of residency to receive a vaccine. Truck drivers should be allowed to receive a vaccine in a state other than that within which they reside due to their length of time on the road and away from home. Truck drivers also should be allowed to receive their second vaccination at a different truckstop location as it is improbable that they would have the ability to return to the primary vaccination site on a specific date or time.

By administering vaccines through our nationwide network of locations, we can ensure the ability of our employees and the nation's truck drivers to continue serving on the front lines of the fuel and food distribution systems across the country. Furthermore, by vaccinating truckstop employees, we can amplify the breadth and scope of vaccination deployment across the communities in which we operate.

It is imperative that we protect those who are delivering critical supplies – including the vaccine – throughout the country. Allowing the truckstop industry, which provides the parking and other services drivers need on the road, to serve as mobile vaccination sites is the best way to meet this goal.

The trucking and truckstop industries appreciate your leadership in guiding the country through this COVID-19 pandemic. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with you in the deployment of a vaccine to protect Americans from COVID-19.

Sincerely,

NATSO, representing America's truckstops and travel plazas  
American Trucking Associations  
National Association of Small Trucking Companies  
National Private Truck Council  
National Tank Truck Carriers  
Truckload Carriers Association

cc: Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services