MEMO

DATE: June 12, 2020
TO: NGA Members
FROM: Robert Yeakel, Director of Government Relations
CC: Greg Ferrara, Chris Jones

RE: FMCSA Hours of Service Waiver – Update & New Restrictions

NGA Members,

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced this week that it would extend its Hours of Service waiver for commercial drivers. Effective June 15, 2020, the extension also contains an updated list of eligible goods, supplies, and items. FMCSA has restricted the Hours of Service waiver extension to the transportation of the following categories:

1. Livestock and livestock feed;
2. Medical supplies and equipment related to the testing, diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19;
3. Supplies and equipment necessary for community safety, sanitation, and prevention of community transmission of COVID-19 such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap and disinfectants.

FMCSA has concluded that there is no longer a need for emergency relief with respect to the other categories of supplies, equipment, and persons covered by the May 13 extension and expansion of Emergency Declaration No. 2020-002, and those categories are therefore no longer covered.

In addition to the modification of eligible items and supplies, I want to remind all NGA members, that both the modified waiver extension (effective June 15 to July 15, 2020) as well as previous waiver extensions, do not apply to what FMCSA terms “routine commercial deliveries”.

Direct assistance does not include routine commercial deliveries, including mixed loads with a nominal quantity of qualifying emergency relief added to obtain the benefits of this emergency declaration.

The full text of the modified Hours of Service waiver extension is available at the above hyperlinks. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you of your company have any questions, comments, or concerns.

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