

**By email**

**Cc DPM  
National COVID19 Commission**

IPWEA  
Level 12, 32 Walker Street  
North Sydney, NSW 2060

Dear Prime Minister

**The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA)** is the peak association for the professionals who deliver public works and engineering services to communities in Australia and New Zealand. IPWEA provides services to its members and advocacy on their behalf.

We commend the work that you and the State Governments across Australia have done over the last year to keep Australians safe. Ahead of the rollout of the COVID19 vaccines and acknowledging the need to prioritise health professionals and those vulnerable in our communities, IPWEA would also like to raise awareness of the need to prioritise critical public works professionals.

Working closely with our members we would like to propose the following recommendations regarding which public works professions should receive priority vaccinations, to ensure the continuity of essential services and safety of our communities.

These essential services and workers are defined as those who:

- Operate and maintain critical infrastructure services including transportation;
- Manage and operate solid waste and refuse disposal systems;
- Provide a clean and safe water supply;
- Provide safe and clean public buildings, spaces and facilities; and
- Assist with logistical efforts in setting up COVID-19 testing sites.

We will support all efforts made by the government as steps are taken to rollout a vaccine. If there is anything further that we can to assist please do not hesitate to contact David Jenkins (CEO, IPWEA) [david.jenkins@ipwea.org](mailto:david.jenkins@ipwea.org).

Your sincerely



Rita Excell  
President IPWEA