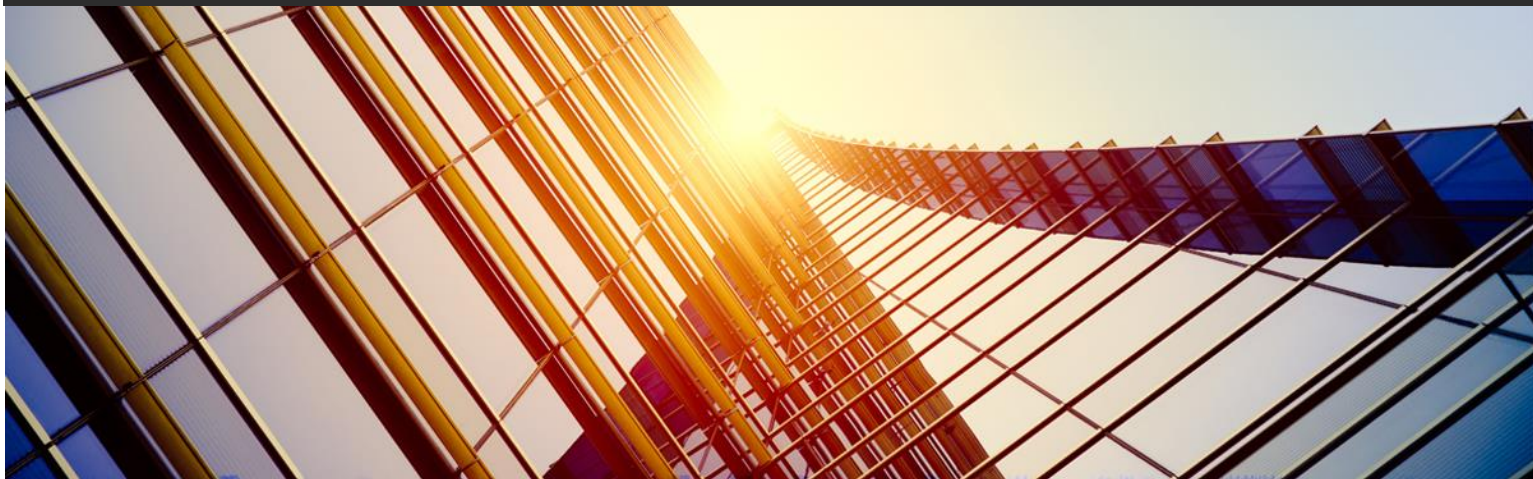


**Alert | Health Emergency Preparedness Task Force:  
Business Continuity Amid COVID-19**



November 2021

## **NY Extends to Dec. 15 Designation of COVID-19 as ‘Highly Contagious Communicable Disease,’ Continuing Employer Obligations Under HERO Act**

On Oct. 31, 2021, New York Gov. Hochul issued an [order](#) extending until Dec. 15, 2021, the designation of COVID-19 as a “highly contagious communicable disease.” This designation, first announced Sept. 6, 2021, requires all employers to implement workplace safety plans under the New York Health and Essential Rights (NY HERO) Act governing the establishment of procedures for prevention and exposure to any diseases so designated by the governor. *See previous GT Alerts, “[New York Employers Must Activate Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Prevention Plans Under NY HERO Act](#)” and “[New York State Publishes HERO Act Model and Industry Plans for Returning to Work](#),” and “[NY Extends Designation of COVID-19 as ‘Highly Contagious Communicable Disease,’ Continuing Employer Obligations Under HERO Act.](#)”*

The designation and mandates will be reviewed by the governor as to any further continuance.

For more information and updates on the developing situation, visit [GT’s Health Emergency Preparedness Task Force: Coronavirus Disease 2019 and Business Continuity Amid COVID-19 page](#).

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