

EXHIBIT A

TITLE 18 TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS
CHAPTER 60 PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE
PART 5 PIPELINE SAFETY EXCAVATION DAMAGE PREVENTION

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18.60.5.13 MARKING EXCAVATION SITES:

A. Excavators. As provided under Subsection B of 18.60.5.10 NMAC, excavators shall mark all proposed excavation sites in accordance with American public works association (APWA) standards to improve communication between the excavator and UFO. In assessing administrative penalties for violation of the Excavation Damage to Pipelines and Underground Utility Lines Law, Section 62-14-1 *et seq.* NMSA 1978 and this rule, the commission may consider whether and how well an excavator marked a proposed excavation site. Pre-marking a site in white indicates the actual excavation site (not limits of construction) and, therefore, will supersede marking instructions provided on locate requests and be used to determine alleged violations during staff investigations. When an excavator fails to pre-mark the actual excavation site, UFOs shall mark per the spotting instructions provided on the locate request and register a positive response indicating the site was not pre-marked.

B. UFOs.

(1) A UFO shall mark underground facilities for excavation purposes in accordance with the APWA standards.

(2) A UFO shall locate and mark its underground facilities within two full working days from the effective date of the ticket in accordance with Subsection A of 62-14-5 NMSA 1978.

(3) If a UFO determines it does not have underground facilities within the proposed limits of the excavation site, a UFO shall provide positive response to the one-call notification's positive response registry system and may write "clear" or "no underground facilities" and the UFO's name at the site in the appropriate color.

(4) The locate markings shall be valid for 15 working days from the end of the ~~two-day~~ marking advance notice period. For the purpose of excavation, a working day begins on the work to begin date and time stamped on the ticket and ends 15 working days from such date and time.

(5) A UFO shall provide appropriate positive response to the one-call notification's positive response registry system for all advance notifications, including wide area, design, bid, standard, and road maintenance locate requests or conferences.

(6) If a UFO fails to mark its underground facility in accordance with the requirements of applicable laws, the UFO may be liable to the excavator in accordance with Subsection C of 62-14-5 NMSA 1978. [18.60.5.13 NMAC - Rp, 18.60.5.13 NMAC, 1/15/2019]

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18.60.5.15 EXCAVATION PROCEDURES:

A. Pre-excavation. Before excavating, an excavator shall determine whether all underground facilities have been marked.

(1) If all underground facilities have been marked or cleared through a positive response system and the ~~two-working-day~~ marking advance notice period has expired, the excavator may begin excavating.

(2) If one or more underground facilities have not been marked and positive response has not been provided, an excavator shall, prior to commencing excavation, call the one-call notification system for verification that advance notice was transmitted to the UFO and to provide notice that the underground facilities have not been located or cleared via a warning locate request. UFOs shall promptly respond to warning locate requests ideally within two hours.

B. Excavation.

(1) If, while excavating, an excavator observes evidence that an unmarked underground facility may exist, the excavator shall, before excavating in the immediate area of such evidence:

(a) make a reasonable effort to identify and contact the UFO and wait until the UFO marks or clears the immediate area of the evidence; the UFO shall mark or clear the area within two hours of contact or as expeditiously as possible if the excavation site is in a rural area;

(b) expose the underground facility by non-mechanical means or mechanical vacuum excavation methods.

(2) If excavation activity encroaches within 18 inches either side of a marking made by a UFO, an excavator shall, prior to excavating, expose the underground facility by non-mechanical means or mechanical vacuum excavation methods.

(3) If the exact subsurface location of the underground facility or utility cannot be determined by non-mechanical means or mechanical vacuum excavation methods as required in Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (1) and Paragraph (2) of this Subsection above, the excavator shall contact the UFO directly and UFO shall work with the excavator to locate and expose the actual subsurface location of the underground facility or utility. If the UFO must resort to performing excavation to locate the facility, the UFO shall perform such excavation within five working days of notice from the excavator. If requested, the local one-call notification center shall provide the excavator with the contact telephone number of the UFO.

(4) If excavation activity cannot proceed without obliterating all or some of the markings made by a UFO, an excavator shall provide temporary offset marks or stakes to retain the information regarding the location of each UFO's underground facilities.

(5) The requirement to provide positive response for a facility does not apply to the homeowner of a residential property.

(6) The commission encourages excavators to notify the UFO when excavation activity will be within twenty-five feet of the actual utility marking provided or as agreed upon by a right of way encroachment agreement or permit for infrastructure identified by the UFO as critical (i.e., transmission and trunk line pipelines, fiber optic, power, 911, etc.).

C. Temporary suspension of excavation activity. If staff determines that an excavation activity is not in compliance with the requirements of this rule, and that continued noncompliance may result in injury to persons or damage to property, staff may suspend the excavation activity until the excavation activity is brought into compliance with the requirements of this rule and excavation conditions are safe.

[18.60.5.15 NMAC - Rp, 18.60.5.15 NMAC, 1/15/2019]

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18.60.5.17 ABUSE OF THE LAW: A person shall be deemed to have willfully failed to comply with this rule or Chapter 62, Article 14 NMSA 1978 and shall be subject to the penalties in Section 62-14-8 NMSA 1978 if the person:

- A. requests a locate for an area that cannot reasonably be excavated in 15 working days;
- B. provides misinformation or withholds information regarding the size of an excavation area;
- C. requests locates that unduly burden a one-call notification system or UFO;
- D. requests a locate for fraudulent reasons;
- E. fails to process locate requests within the requisite timeframe;
- F. fails to mark, or provide positive response for its underground facilities within the requisite timeframe;
- G. fails to determine if all underground facilities have been marked or cleared;
- H. commences excavation prior to the expiration of the ~~two-day~~advance notice period;
- I. obliterates markings at an excavation site without providing temporary offset marks or stakes;
- J. alters any record relating to excavation activity;
- K. fails to pre-mark the actual intended excavation route or site(s) as required;
- L. fails to report or file a report of damage within requisite time frame; or
- M. commits any other act that the commission determines violates Chapter 62, Article 14 NMSA 1978 or this rule.

[18.60.5.17 NMAC - Rp, 18.60.5.17 NMAC, 1/15/2019]

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