



Key Information

- Excavators must call the NM811 Center to place a wide area conference ticket.
- At the scheduled conference everyone must sign an agreed upon work plan, then the excavator may call in for a wide area locate.
- The work plan must include the ten things required for a standard locate ticket and a schedule of what needs to be located and by when.
- The excavator is responsible for ensuring the communication between excavator and UFOs occurs and is documented in the work plan.
- The wide area locate ticket must be reaffirmed within every 30 working days or the ticket will expire, and the process will need to be restarted.
- A template of a work plan can be found on NM811's web site, nm811.org.
- To sign up for a wide area class that covers what a wide area locate is and how to submit a conference ticket please contact us via email at Membership@nm811.org.

View full details on www.nm811.org



OUR MISSION
Preventing damage
to underground facilities
and promoting
excavation safety.



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WIDE AREA LOCATES



The purpose of the wide area locate is to prevent unnecessary burden to locators, ensure safe excavation, promote damage prevention, and to provide an active ticket for continuous excavation in accordance with NM excavation laws.

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Wide Area Locate (WAL)

The WAL process is designed for handling large areas or long-term excavations. Updates and relocations could be considered a violation of excavation law in the state of NM. The WAL process is proposed for excavations that are longer than 5 miles in length, greater than 3 acres in size, or excavations that will last longer than 30 days.

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Wide Area Conference Process

The process starts with calling the NM811 Center to request a wide area conference (WAC) and provide a date, time, and location for the conference. The notified underground facility operators (UFO) are required to be represented at the conference. If necessary, the UFOs may notify the excavator to reschedule the conference date within 5 working days from the proposed date.

The excavator will develop a wide area work plan prior to the WAC to be presented at conference. All parties must agree to the work plan, sign it, and receive a copy. After the UFOs have received the work plan, they must provide positive response. In the event of an incident, the work plan is the governing document for determining violations of excavation law.



New Mexico law does not allow for continuous “updates” or relocations of tickets. If you will be on a long-term project, you will need to pre-plan your work and meet with your locators using the Wide Area Process.

Wide Area Locate Process

Once all parties have signed off on the proposed work plan, the excavator will call NM811 two working days prior to starting the excavation and request a wide area locate ticket (WAL). The WAL will reference the WAC ticket number. Once the positive responses are confirmed, a WAL ticket is issued by the NM811 center. This informs the UFOs that the project’s excavation will start after 2 working days and then follow the work plan, and locate schedule.

Updates or revisions to the work plan shall be agreed to, put in writing, and signed by all parties. The WAL ticket must be reaffirmed by the excavator every 30 working days to maintain a valid ticket. The WAL ticket expires if it is not reaffirmed by the expiration date and the excavator will need to begin the process again with a new conference.

Required Work Plan Information

1. Excavator’s name (company), a contact person (first and last name), contact’s daytime phone number, and mailing address.
2. Alternate contact information and daytime phone number.
3. A brief description and purpose for the type of work to be done.
4. The person or company for whom the work is being done.

5. Whether or not the excavation site is pre-marked in white.
6. An accurate physical description of the location and size of the excavation location. For example: a street address or GPS coordinates (with degrees in decimal format). Reference to a plat of a subdivision is not a sufficient description.
7. Driving instructions to a rural excavation site or a site within a city or town that needs additional directions.
8. Spotting instructions: accurately describe the actual dig area that needs to have lines located, with dates needed.
9. Any appropriate remarks regarding access issues or hazards at the excavation site the locators should know about.
10. Rural locations need to either be white lined or GPS coordinates need to be provided.



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