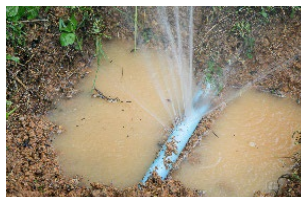




FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

2020

California Dig Safe Board



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For a hard copy of this report, please contact the Dig Safe Board at (916) 902-6000 or digboard@energysafety.ca.gov. This report is also available on the Board's website:

<https://energysafety.ca.gov/what-we-do/underground-safety-board/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary.....	4
About the Board.....	5
Adjusting to COVID-19.....	7
New in 2020.....	8
A New Approach to Education.....	9
Enforcement Program.....	10
AB 1166 (Levine, 2019):	
Electronic Positive Response.....	11
Regulations Wrap-up.....	12
Outreach Abridged.....	14
SB 865: The Future of the Dig Safe Board.....	16
Glossary.....	17
2021 Board Meetings & Staff Roster.....	19

"The conversation always revolves around liability, and who pays the bill, and that's what happens rather than the safety."

Senator Hill, oversight hearing,
December 17, 2015

INTRODUCTION

The Dig Safe Act of 2016 (SB 661 Hill, 2016) created the California Underground Facilities Safe Excavation ("Dig Safe Board" or "Board") within the Office of State Fire Marshal of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and charged it with coordinating the State's safe excavation education and outreach programs, developing standards where none currently exist, investigating "dig-in" accidents, and working to enforce the law with partners at the Contractors State License Board, the California Public Utilities Commission, and the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The Board was created with the idea that the previous approach of using civil liability to resolve disputes was insufficient to improve public and worker safety around buried infrastructure.

The Board's statutory authority in Government Code (Gov't) § 4216 *et seq.*, referenced throughout this report as the one-call law (Law), places different requirements on those who own, operate, or maintain underground facilities—referred to as operators—and those who dig—referred to as excavators. excavators are required to notify a regional notification center ("one-call center") where and when they will be digging. The applicable one-call center compares the digging location with location records of operators' facilities and electronically notifies any operator who may have underground facilities where the digging is planned to take place. Those operators are then required to respond to the excavator within a specific timeframe with information about their facilities by locating and marking them with paint or flags, providing information on facility locations, or stating that their facilities are not within the planned area of excavation.

Technical terms within this report are defined in the Glossary (Page 17).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the Board's first two years of work (2018 and 2019) it focused on meeting legislative deadlines and developing its operational capabilities. In 2020, the Board moved beyond meeting deadlines and started implementing its legislative charge in earnest, including taking enforcement actions and completing its development of an education course. The COVID-19 pandemic required the Board to adapt existing operations to remote work and physical distancing. The Board's maturation will continue into 2021, and it will embark on a new future as part of the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety beginning in January 2022.

Enforcement

During 2020, approximately 150 investigations were conducted into possible violations.

Following the issuance of the first Notices of Probable Violation in July, the Board heard twelve enforcement cases, each referring the violator to the California Public Utilities Commission or the Contractors State License Board with a recommended penalty of attending the Board's education course.

A new case management system rolled out in October to store investigation information and provide reports and analysis used for enforcement and to inform the Board's policy work.

Regulations

Regulations impacting excavators and operators were implemented addressing the following topics:

1. areas of continual excavation, providing one-year tickets for farmers and flood control operators
2. The enforcement process
3. Use of power tools in finding underground facilities
4. Approval process for extensions to the requirement to submit electronic positive responses to excavation tickets.

Education & Outreach

The Board completed the creation of its education course, which is aimed at informing violators of the requirements of the one-call law and the shared responsibility in ensuring excavation is conducted safely.

Efforts by the Board to expand education and outreach beyond new laws and regulations were hampered by COVID-19, as conferences and in-person events were cancelled or curtailed. Work to increase education and outreach is planned for 2021.

SB 865

In 2021, the Board will prepare to move from within the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, pursuant to Senate Bill 865 (Hill, 2020). The knowledge and skills the Board developed in establishing its operations make it well prepared to support the new Office's creation of policies, procedures, and culture. The Board looks forward to collaborating with the rest of the Office and establishing the organization's operational foundation.

ABOUT THE BOARD

Legislative History

SB 661 (Hill, 2016)

Created the Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board (Dig Safe Board) within CAL FIRE with the following overarching charges:

1. Coordinate education and outreach activities that encourage safe excavation practices;
2. Develop standards;
3. Investigate possible violations of the one-call law; and
4. Enforce the one-call law

AB 1914 (Flora, 2018)

Directs the Board to determine through regulation what types of power tools may be used around buried facilities prior to determining their exact location using hand tools.

AB 1166 (Levine, 2019)

Requires operators to submit a response to an excavator via electronic positive response commencing January 1, 2021, and requires the Board to develop an application process to approve one-year extensions for good cause.

SB 865 (Hill, 2020)

Requires GIS mapping of new underground facilities, requires regional notification centers to share certain information with the Board, and moves the Dig Safe Board to the newly formed Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety.

2020 Board Members

Appointed by the Governor

Carl Voss, Chair

Marjorie Del Toro, Vice Chair

Ron Bianchini

Jessica Forte

William Johns

Marshall Johnson

Vacant

Appointed by the Assembly Speaker

Amparo Muñoz

Appointed by the Senate Rules Committee

Randy Charland



Figure 1: Excavator digging near an underground facility.

Mission

The Board improves public and worker safety by facilitating communication and learning among excavators and the operators of subsurface installations, by investigating accidents to determine their causes, and by developing solutions to improve safety outcomes. The Board strives to be a model regulatory and investigatory board for other states to emulate.

Vision

The Board seeks to effect a California in which the state's excavators and subsurface installation owners know and understand:

- How to identify the locations of subsurface installations,
- How to protect against dangerous contact with those installations,
- How to resolve unexpected situations that may arise, and

in which the state's excavators and subsurface installation owners exercise that knowledge and understanding to promote a culture of mutual respect and dedication to the cause that everyone goes home safe.

Values

The actions and decisions of the Board members and staff will be guided and informed by their commitments to:

- Respect for and attentiveness to the expression of differing backgrounds and perspectives of the Board's members, the public, and stakeholders, as well as for the missions of excavators, operators of subsurface installations, and other federal, state, and local agencies.
- A culture of continuous learning based on the development and free exchange of safety information.
- Inquiry into the facts of and context behind accidents, near misses, and latent safety-related conditions in the field.
- Accessibility to the public and stakeholders, within the bounds of the law, constitutional principles of due process, and ethical conduct.
- Integrity in serving in the public interest and devotion to maintaining the public's trust.

ADJUSTING TO COVID-19

The arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic presented unprecedented challenges for all Californians. While COVID-19 resulted in unexpected changes to Board operations, it also represented an opportunity for the Board to rethink and retool some of its business practices to become more effective.

Moving to Virtual

In Spring 2020, Board staff implemented telework and transitioned its operations from in-person to virtual formats to comply with Executive Orders and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19.

This included moving Board meetings from in-person to teleconferences. Staff leveraged existing use of GoToMeeting, its public participation online platform, to enable the switch to a fully virtual meeting environment. Staff later transitioned to GoToWebinar, a more advanced product better aligned to larger capacity meetings. This platform offers robust privacy and security settings while still providing several public participation options for those with and without internet access.

Retooling Business Practices

Immediate, unforeseen changes in work plans due to COVID-19 had the benefit of allowing staff to rethink and adjust business practices to be more efficient by leveraging technology. This included the adoption and use of electronic signature and virtual meeting software.

From Outreach to Tool Development

Virtual meetings are not always effective replacements for in-person contact. Board staff had planned to conduct two in-person outreach events to farmers to advertise the area of continual excavation ticket, effective July 1, 2020. Instead, Member Voss and staff focused on developing written, online instructions for farmers to use in receiving the new tickets.

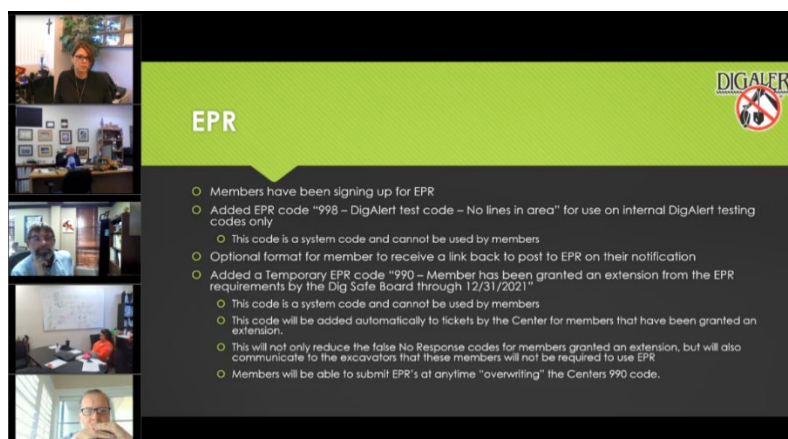


Figure 2: Board Members receive a presentation via webinar during the November 2020 Board Meeting.

NEW IN 2020

Despite the challenges brought by 2020, the Board completed several novel initiatives.

First Enforcement Actions

In September and November 2020, the Board held its first enforcement hearings to deliberate and vote on 12 Notices of Probable Violation (NOPVs) against excavators and utilities regulated by the Contractors State License Board and the California Public Utilities Commission. In each case, the Board recommended to the regulator a sanction of mandatory education.

Education Course

In the first half of 2020, the Board finalized its education course, which was built on human factors and motivating a safety mindset rather than the rote technical skills and procedures. Brought to life through select case studies, topics such as the USA ticket, maps, markings, and organizational safety policies are examined through a lens of functional communication. The course has been adapted to the virtual environment, and the first class is scheduled for early 2021.

Mandatory Damage Notifications

To investigate incidents, Board investigative staff must be made aware of them while evidence and witnesses are available. Beginning July 1, 2020, all excavators who damage or discover damage to a gas or petroleum line, or who are involved in an incident resulting in injury or fatality, are required to contact the regional notification center within two hours. The regional notification center immediately forwards the incident notification to the Board's investigations case management system.

Idea Register

To solicit participation from stakeholders large and small, the Board created the "Idea Register" and Idea Submission Form to provide opportunities for all interested parties to offer input. Together, these tools provide an easy and accessible way for stakeholders to share ideas with the Board to help improve safety, efficiency, and compliance. Submitted ideas are cataloged in the Idea Register and discussed by the Board when preparing its annual plan.

A NEW APPROACH TO EDUCATION

In the first half of 2020, the Board finalized its education course, which was built on human factors and promotes a safety mindset, as opposed to a monotonic listing of requirements and procedures. Brought to life through select case studies, topics such as the USA ticket, maps, markings, and organizational safety policies are examined through a lens of promoting two-way communication between excavators and operators. The curriculum empowers individuals to protect themselves and others by:

- Providing a fundamental understanding of the basic safe excavation process laid out in the one-call law;
- Increasing the value participants place on knowing and using safe practices, with an emphasis on open communication between parties; and
- Impressing upon participants how unsafe digging practices endanger lives.

Completion of the course converged with the evolving COVID-19 crisis in mid-2020. Adapting to the need for remote delivery, the Board acquired a suitable online platform and adapted all course materials for remote delivery, resulting in a more accessible safety education resource.

The course will be revised periodically to reflect changes in excavation safety and California law. As the Board's enforcement work builds, new case studies may be developed.

While the course was designed to be applied as a corrective action in its enforcement efforts, industry participants have expressed interest in the course as a safe digging resource that might be applied proactively by both operators and excavators.

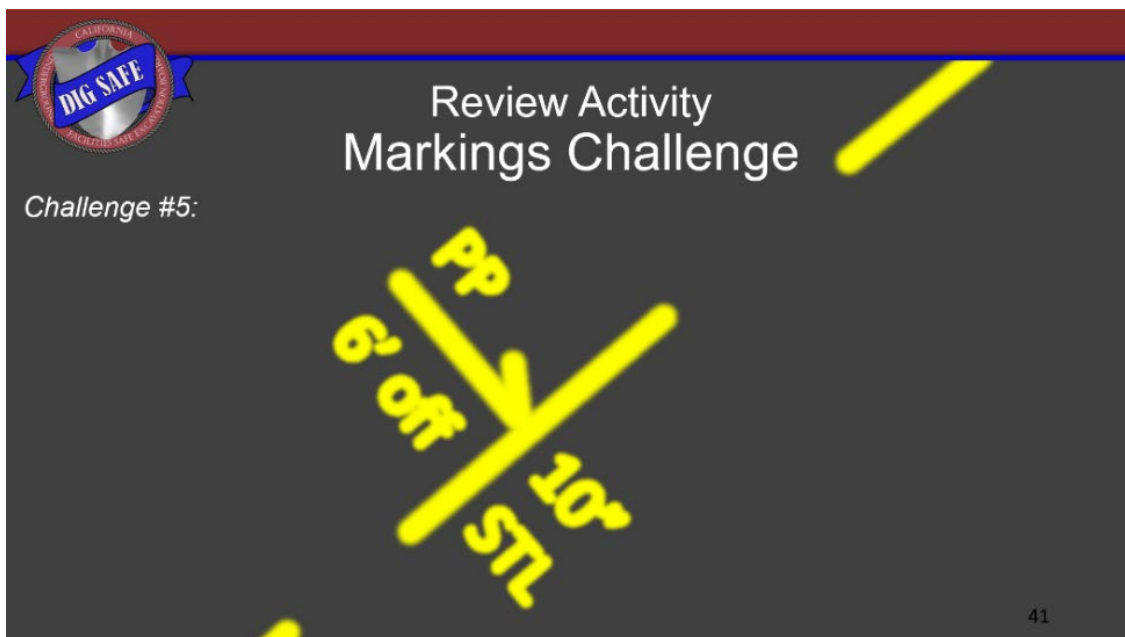


Figure 3: A sample slide from the Board's Education Course which reviews how to read markings.

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

After two years of laying the groundwork for the investigation and hearing processes, the Board brought these efforts to fruition as it heard and decided its first enforcement cases in Fall 2020.

Enforcement Hearings

Regulations that took effect July 1, 2020, established the Board's enforcement hearing process.

On September 14, 2020, the Board held its first enforcement hearing to deliberate and vote on the nine notices of probable violation (NOPV) that had been mailed to respondents between July 8-10, 2020. The Board voted to refer all NOPVs to the applicable regulatory body with a recommended penalty of mandatory education. The Board adopted these decisions at its November 2020 meeting.

Three additional NOPVs were sent out on August 21, 2020. These cases were heard at the Board's November meeting at which it voted to recommend mandatory education. The written decisions for these cases were adopted at the Board's December 2020 meeting.

Investigations Case Management

In October 2020, the Board's Case Management System went live. The system, developed through a June 2019 contract with MERP Systems Incorporated, serves as a centralized repository for investigations information and provides for input, storage, and retrieval of all case records, along with robust reporting and notification functionalities. The Board will analyze the data and other reports the system produces to inform its activities.

Complaint Process

While mandatory damage reporting became operative in July 2020, the Board sought a pathway for stakeholders to notify the Board of potential violations of the one-call law that may not be captured through damage reporting. A written complaint form is hosted by DigAlert, the Southern California regional notification center. Complaints are evaluated in the same manner as potential violations, in accordance with the one-call law.

AB 1166 (LEVINE, 2019): ELECTRONIC POSITIVE RESPONSE

Assembly Bill 1166 (Levine, 2019) requires operators to respond to tickets electronically through the regional notification center commencing January 1, 2021, via a process called electronic positive response (EPR). In 2020, in accordance with statute, the Board adopted an emergency regulation to allow operators to receive a one-year extension for “good cause.” In total, the Board received 60 extension applications by the submission deadline, all of which were approved.

Emergency Regulation

The Board defined “good cause” following discussion at several meetings and a stakeholder survey, and adopted the emergency regulation establishing the extension process, which became effective July 1, 2020.

Board discussion on what constitutes good cause began at the December 2019 meeting, and in January 2020, the Board launched an online survey seeking information from operators on what they saw as obstacles to implementing EPR by the January 2021 deadline. The survey results were discussed at the Board’s February 2020 meeting. Draft language to implement the EPR extension process was presented at the April 2020 Board meeting, at which the Board discussed and voted to adopt Resolution No. 20-04-01 approving the proposed regulation language and directing staff to proceed with the rulemaking process.

Outreach for EPR

Board staff conducted an outreach campaign to inform operators of both the extension process and the EPR requirement that would take effect on January 1, 2021. Original outreach plans for low-engagement operators based on face-to-face meetings and presentations were disrupted by COVID-19 public health restrictions. Staff

created an EPR resource page for the Board’s website, and an electronic flyer and Frequently Asked Questions document were distributed in waves via operator email contact lists made available to the Board by both regional notification centers. These outreach methods drove 93% of application submissions.

Staff outreach often introduced the Dig Safe Board and its mission to individuals and organizations previously unaware of the Board. These efforts, conducted electronically and by telephone, found nearly universal lack of awareness of the upcoming requirement. Thus, the success of this campaign established the groundwork for significant new stakeholder participation in future Board activities.

Extensions

The Board approved all 60 EPR extension applications that it received by the application deadline of October 1st established in the emergency regulation. Most applicants were smaller operators and municipalities: groups who had been anticipated to face greater difficulties with the transition to EPR. Applications were reviewed and approved by the Board on a rolling basis, beginning at its August meeting and concluding at the December meeting.

REGULATIONS WRAP-UP

The Board developed and approved regulations in 2020, including new rules for area of continual excavation, Enforcement Hearing Process, Power Tool Use in the tolerance zone, Current Contact Information, and electronic positive response.

Area of Continual Excavation

In 2020, regulations creating an extended excavation ticket for areas of continual excavation (ACE) available for agricultural and flood control excavators took effect. These regulations targeted excavator groups that had not, for the most part, been involved in the call before you dig process and thus represented a key opportunity for improving excavation safety.

Enforcement Hearing Process

Regulations for the process of considering probable violations of the one-call law were finalized and in place in mid-2020. These regulations specify the processes for responding to and appealing Board notices of probable violations.

Power Tool Use in Tolerance Zone

Additional regulations specifying what, how, and when power tools may be used within the tolerance zone of underground facilities were implemented in 2020. This set of regulations is expected to improve worker safety as the previous requirement mandating the use of hand tools in these situations was often ignored and power tool use hidden, precluding effective communication between the excavator and operator.

Mandatory Damage Reporting

To ensure investigators would be aware of accidents in time to investigate them, the Board finalized regulations to require excavators to report specified damages within two (2) hours of discovery. Applicable damages are those to natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines, high voltage electric and pressurized sewer lines, and any damage that results in hospitalization or death. This requirement came into effect on July 1, 2020.

Current Contact Information

Regulations requiring up-to-date contact information for excavators and operators were also implemented in 2020 and reiterate the important role of communication between parties in excavation safety.

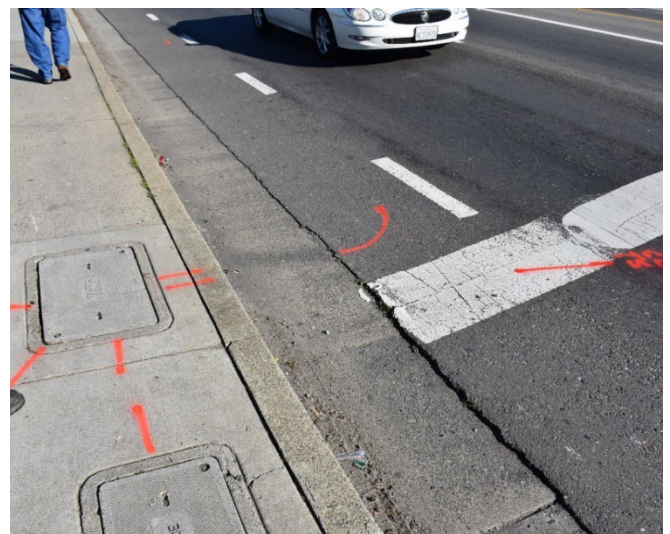


Figure 4: Markings indicating presence of electrical underground facilities.

The Year Ahead for Regulations and Standards

Fee Regulation Revision

In 2021, the Board plans to complete the process of amending its fee regulation to streamline the process for fee payers, Board staff, and the regional notification centers who administer the fee on the Board's behalf. Early work began in summer 2020, and the Board approved draft regulation language in September 2020. The new regulation is targeted to take effect in January 2022.

Reasonable Care Standards

The Dig Safe Act of 2016 tasked the Board with developing standards "relevant to safety practices in excavating around subsurface installations and procedures and guidance in encouraging those practices" (Gov't Code §4216.18). Specifically, the statute identifies reasonable care in using hand tools, exposing deep facilities in the tolerance zone, stacked facilities, road grading, and potholing as topics to be addressed through the Board standards.

During the Board's July 2020 meeting, the Board decided to approach reasonable care by type of excavation so that discussions could be informed by specialists knowledgeable in each excavation type, understanding that factors such as excavation type and project phase might require different standards. The Board's reasonable care Committee of Members Bianchini and Muñoz worked with staff and identified trenchless excavation as the first area in which to begin development of standards. Over the next four months, staff gathered information on existing trenchless excavation practices. These efforts included discussion at multiple Board meetings, two public workshops, one online survey, and a telephone outreach campaign targeting excavators, safety managers, facility operators, and engineers knowledgeable in trenchless excavation practices.

At the Board's November meeting, outreach results and the implications for trenchless excavation standards specifics were discussed. The Board expects standard development for reasonable care in trenchless excavation to continue in 2021.

Standards Demonstrating Compliance

As 2020 saw the Board beginning one-call law enforcement, in 2021, the Board will begin the development of standards, per Gov't Code § 4216.18, setting forth how excavators and operators may demonstrate to each other, insurance companies, and the Board that they have complied with the law.

OUTREACH ABRIDGED

A primary function of the Board is to coordinate education and outreach activities that encourage safe excavation practices. Planned outreach on power tool use and additional targeted outreach to low awareness stakeholder groups were truncated in early 2020 by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, the Board continued to develop tools to support adoption of “call before you dig” within the agricultural community.

Area of Continual Excavation

The farming and flood control excavation communities eligible for ACE ticket use have a history of low engagement with the one-call law and process. To bridge this knowledge gap, the Board implemented outreach tools aimed at increasing stakeholder awareness of the new process. Staff created a webpage providing information on the ACE ticket process and related requirements, as well as links to download the ACE Agreement Forms.

In light of the increased need for distanced communications, the ACE Agreement forms were converted to fillable PDF forms to better facilitate electronic information sharing. Staff created a pamphlet for farmers outlining the ticketing procedure and highlighting the ease of use offered by the annual ticket option, and partnered with agricultural associations to deliver it. Work also began with the regional notification centers to develop guides for farmers to use in requesting an ACE ticket online.



Figure 5: A tractor moving earth across a farm field.

The Year Ahead for Education & Outreach

Area of Continual Excavation

While the ACE ticket launched in 2020, uptake among eligible excavators remains limited. In the first four months of availability, less than 300 ACE tickets were created, more than three-fourths of which were created by a single entity. This is dwarfed by the approximate 500,000 agriculture parcels estimated to exist in the state. In the past, the Board's greatest successes with agricultural stakeholders has been achieved through in-person outreach, an approach faced with the twin challenges of resource intensiveness and the COVID-19 pandemic. Board efforts to educate and improve compliance among farmers and flood control operators within these constraints will continue into 2021 and beyond.

Power Tool Use in the Tolerance Zone

The Board will need to conduct outreach in 2021 supporting the new regulations implemented in 2020 allowing for the use of power tools in the Tolerance Zone. This work will need to include identification of effective messaging channels to reach beyond the small slice of Excavators and Operators who are already actively engaged with the Board and its work.

Building Brand and Name Recognition

Throughout the Board's existence, efforts to improve engagement among historically uninvolved stakeholder groups have been focused on informing regulation development. Comments from respondents during enforcement hearings in late 2020 commonly indicated prior ignorance of both the Board and One-Call Law requirements, highlighting an ongoing need for the Board to conduct education and outreach. Further expansion of name recognition and safe excavation knowledge among unengaged groups will continue in 2021.



Figure 6: A farm tractor plows a ditch across a dirt field.

SB 865: WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR THE DIG SAFE BOARD

Senate Bill 865, signed into law on September 29, 2020, enacts several changes to the one-call law that impact the Board and its future work. Changes of note include improving information sharing between regional notification centers and the Board, requiring operators to record and maintain GIS information on the location of new subsurface installations, and moving the Board from within CAL FIRE to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety in 2022. The Board has begun preparing for these changes.

Improved Information Sharing

SB 865 includes several safety communication elements. Specifically, it requires that data on damage and excavation notification tickets held by the regional notification centers be shared with the Board at specific reporting intervals. While this data was previously available to the Board on an ad-hoc basis, centralizing and unifying reporting requirements will allow the Board access to the full complement of ticket information so that it may more efficiently use it in investigations and analyze the data to identify and respond to trends.

Using Data to Inform Decision Making

The additional information sharing explained in the previous section, along with new requirements for electronic positive response and damage reporting, align with the Board's 2020 implementation of a Case Management System and together are expected to improve the Board's ability to leverage available data to inform its decision making. The development of data models began in 2020 and is expected to continue into future years.

Required GIS Recording of All New Installations

SB 865 requires all new subsurface installations be mapped using GIS and stored in an operator's permanent records. This requirement is expected to improve excavation safety by enhancing both the speed and accuracy of future locating of these installations. While this is a welcome improvement, it does not address what happens to existing installations that are never replaced or are abandoned as is. Improvements in technology, operator asset management, and policy will be needed in the coming years to continue advancing SB 865's goals.

Moving to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

SB 865 moves the Dig Safe Board from the Office of the State Fire Marshal in CAL FIRE to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, soon to be created within the Natural Resources Agency per the California Energy Infrastructure Safety Act of 2019 (AB 111, 2019). Once SB 865 was enacted, staff began working with the CPUC's Wildfire Safety Division (also moving to the new Office) and the Agency to prepare for the January 1, 2022 move date.

GLOSSARY

Abandoned (Abandoned Line): Refers to a subsurface installation that is no longer in service and has been physically disconnected from any other underground utility line that is in use for storage or conveyance of service.

Area of Continual Excavation (ACE)

Ticket: An area of continual excavation ticket can involve either a flood control or an agricultural facility and expires after one year, rather than 28 days.

Common Ground Alliance (CGA): A national non-profit formed in 2000 dedicated to preventing damage to underground infrastructure by promoting effective damage prevention practices and shared responsibility among all stakeholders.

CGA Best Practices: An annual guide released by the Common Ground Alliance and used as a resource in the industry for underground damage prevention.

Damage: Any impact on or removal of support from a subsurface installation resulting from excavation or demolition that, according to the operating practices of the facility operator, would necessitate repair.

Excavation (Digging): Any operation in which earth, rock, or other material in the ground is moved, removed, or otherwise displaced, in any way, by means of tools or explosives.

Geographic Information System (GIS): A system used to gather, manage, and analyze data which can organize layers of information into visualizations using maps and 3D scenes.

Hand Tool: A piece of excavation equipment that uses human power, and is not powered by any motor, engine, hydraulic, or pneumatic device.

Locate & Mark: At the location to be excavated, to find and mark the locations of subsurface installations before work begins. Methods for marking are outlined in Appendix B, "Uniform Color and Marking Guide" in the Common Ground Alliance publication "Guidelines for Operator Facility Field Delineation."

Locator: A representative from a utility or third-party contractor who locates and marks underground infrastructure in a proposed excavation zone, using flags, markers, or colored paint.

Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV): A letter notifying an excavator or operator that an investigation has identified a probable violation of the one-call law and includes options for responding to the notice.

Notification (USA Ticket or Ticket): A locate request submitted by an excavator through a regional notification center prior to an excavation. Each ticket is issued a unique number. "USA" stands for Underground Service Alert.

One-Call Law (Law): California Government Code Section 4216.

Operator: Any person, corporation, public agency, or other entity that owns, operates, or maintains a subsurface installation.

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA): A Federal Agency within the Department of Transportation responsible for enforcing regulations on the operation of pipeline transportation.

Positive Response: Allows the excavator to know whether an underground facility operator has marked the requested area prior to the beginning of the excavation and may include the following: markings or documentation left at the job site, callback, fax, or automated response system.

Electronic Positive Response (EPR): An electronic communication from an operator to a regional notification center indicating the status of its response to a notification which an excavator may use to confirm the status of the operator's response.

Pothole: A test hole to expose a subsurface installation to determine the horizontal and vertical location of the facility. To **Pothole** is the act of making the test hole.

Reasonable Care: Measures taken by excavators to avoid injuries and accidents stemming from damages to subsurface installations.

Regional Notification Center (One-Call Center): A non-profit association of operators that takes notifications from excavators and transmits those notifications to operators so that they may locate and mark subsurface installations in the area. California has two regional notification centers: Underground Service Alert of Northern California and Nevada (USA North 811) and Underground Service Alert of Southern California (DigAlert).

Subsurface Installation (Underground Facility or Underground Infrastructure): Any underground pipeline, conduit, duct, wire, or other structure, except non-pressurized sewer lines, non-pressurized storm drains, or other non-pressurized drain lines.

Tolerance Zone: A set distance from a subsurface installation that an excavator must use caution in digging, as the underground facility should be within the area. This is 24-inches, or two feet, on either side of the subsurface installation, and is marked by the operator.

2021 BOARD MEETINGS

Due to COVID-19, Board Meetings will be held via webinar teleconference until the expiration of applicable Executive Orders.

FEBRUARY 9

MARCH 8-9

APRIL 12-13

MAY 10-11

JUNE 14-15

JULY 12-13

AUGUST 9-10

SEPTEMBER 13-14

OCTOBER 11-12

NOVEMBER 8-9

DECEMBER 13-14

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Anna Brown, Supervising Special Investigator

Carla Newman, Supervising Special Investigator

John Benane, Special Investigator

Michael Ehrgott, Special Investigator

Dennis Fenton, Special Investigator

Charley Park, Special Investigator



Figure 7: A pipeline with valves is installed in the ground.



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