



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC 20590

## PIPELINE SAFETY

### 2010 State Damage Prevention Grant

for

### GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Please follow the directions listed below:

1. Review the entire document for completeness.
2. Review and have an authorized signatory sign page 2.
3. Fasten all pages with a paper or binder clip - no staples please as this package will be scanned upon it's arrival at PHMSA.
4. Mail the entire document, including this cover page to the following:

**ATTN: Karina Munoz  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
Office of Contracts and Procurement  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Second Floor E22-228  
Washington, D.C. 20590**

#### **FedSTAR Information**

Submission Date: 8/31/2009 11:21:41 AM



**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**  
**1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE**  
**Washington DC 20590**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**APPLICATION**

**2010 GRANT PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF STATE DAMAGE PREVENTION**

The GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION hereby applies to the Department of Transportation for Federal funds appropriated for the support of State Damage Prevention Programs established under 49 U.S.C. Section 60134 et seq.

The State agency plans to carry out the State Damage Prevention Program, during calendar year 2010, as described in Attachment 1, "Project Abstract/Statement of Objectives". To accomplish the program, the state agency proposes to expend funds as set forth in Attachment 4, "State Damage Prevention Estimated Budget".

---

Signature

---

Title

---

Date



## **Project Abstract/Statement of Objectives**

**Please provide a clear and concise description of the work this grant will fund for calendar year 2010**

This grant will be used to continue the enforcement actions enabled by the 2008 and 2009 State Damage Prevention Assistance Program grants awarded by PHMSA. Those grants allowed the Georgia Public Service Commission to hire and fully equip one full time field investigator dedicated to enforcing the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act. The Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act addresses damages to any and all buried utility facilities by requiring that anyone performing mechanized excavation on any parcel of land in any county in the state request a facility locate 48 hours in advance beginning the next business day before beginning those mechanized excavation activities. In addition, anyone who owns or operates a buried utility in the state must join and support the activities of the one call center in the state. That would include locating its facilities 48 hours in advance beginning the next business day upon receiving notice that mechanized excavation will take place in conflict with its facilities.

In addition, and due to a recent PHMSA inspection in July 2009, the Georgia Pipeline Safety Program was admonished for lack of ability to mine the data that it captures in relation to third party damages. Based on that evaluation Georgia would like to use Funds from the 2010 SDPAP grant that would enhance the current electronic program for data gathering thereby enhancing the mining capabilities of the program that would allow for the identification of damage trends and habitual violators. Being able to so that the meager resources dedicated to the program can be better utilized resulting in enhanced damage prevention efforts.



## State Damage Prevention Elements

### **ELEMENT 1 - EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS**

"Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of methods for establishing and maintaining effective communications between stakeholders from receipt of an excavation notification until successful completion of the excavation, as appropriate."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required)** No

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

The Utilities Protection Center in Georgia is the focal point for communication between those seeking to perform mechanized excavation in the state and those who have buried utilities in the state. Anyone seeking to perform mechanized excavation in the state must first contact the UPC for a facility locate, which is communicated to the appropriate facility owner/operators who then complete the locate and communicate the results back to the UPC. In 2005 the circle of communication was completed in Georgia by further requiring that all ticket holders be aware of the information contained in positive response. The life of a ticket is set at 21 calendar days, insuring that no tickets are left open ended.

The UPC was created by state law, which further specifies that there will be no duplication thereof. The UPC is governed by a board made up of representatives from its utility owner/operator membership. The UPC has a dynamic public education and damage prevention program that is thoroughly documented and provided to the member utility owner operators annually. Audits are performed annually on UPC policies to ensure proper implementation of CGA Best Practices.

Locate requests can be processed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 365 days of the year. Web based and telephonic methods are also offered for positive response, which can be utilized by member utilities, excavators, and the general public ? the information includes facility owner/operator contact information. UPC provides a variety of delivery methods to its member utilities for receiving locate requests ? these include Email and XML and other available technologies. Furthermore, UPC has disaster recovery/business continuity policies and procedures in place to ensure that the Center maintains a high accessibility rate. These policies include a secondary "hot" DR site, which houses additional servers in the event of a disaster at its primary location.



**ELEMENT 2 - COMPREHENSIVE STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT**

"A process for fostering and ensuring the support and partnership of stakeholders, including excavators, operators, locators, designers, and local government in all phases of the program."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required)** No

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

The Georgia Utility Coordinating Council (GUCC) has over 1500 members involved in 56 local committees throughout the state. Since the GUCC's inception in 1982, these committees have met on a monthly basis with the purpose being for all stakeholders, excavators, locators, facility owner/operators, designers, local and state government, local and state DOT to come together and network as to contact persons for trouble shooting, updates on any current projects or upcoming projects and any other pertinent information that would further enhance damage prevention. In addition to the local meetings, statewide meetings, representing all stakeholders and local Utility Coordinating Committees (UCC), are held twice annually to further enhance communications among all stakeholders. The GUCC was one of the first regional partners of the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) adopting the Best Practices in 2002 and is dedicated to promoting CGA and their message throughout the state. One of 14 statewide committees, the GUCC Legislative Committee has been instrumental in developing legislative enhancements that allows an equal voice for all stakeholders, while coming to consensus prior to the legislative process. The Safety committee annually awards excavators throughout state who exemplify the art of Digging Safely. This association also provides volunteers and funding for Locate Rodeo and Locate Excellence that are incentives for locate technicians. Lifetime membership awards are presented to any stakeholder whose dedication and comment to damage prevention is outstanding. All stakeholders are eligible for the GUCC Lifetime Achievement Award to recognize those members who have exhibited sustained leadership within the association.



**ELEMENT 3 - OPERATOR INTERNAL PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT**

"A process for reviewing the adequacy of a pipeline operator's internal performance measures regarding persons performing locating services and quality assurance programs."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No**

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

Pipeline Safety staff perform Operator Qualification Inspections on gas operators to ensure that all gas operator personnel and contract personnel are qualified in the position that they are assigned to. Locate personnel, whether company employees or contract personnel, are required to be retrained in the case of failure to complete properly and accurately all locates assigned to them. In addition, the largest pipeline operator in Georgia, (with over 1.5 million customers) has implemented a quality assurance program taking random samples of their locates performed to check for accuracy.



**ELEMENT 4 - EFFECTIVE EMPLOYEE TRAINING**

"Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of effective employee training programs to ensure that operators, the one call center, the enforcing agency, and the excavators have partnered to design and implement training for the employees of operators, excavators, and locators."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required)** No

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

The local monthly Utility Coordinating Committee (UCC) meetings are dedicated to training on dig law requirements in addition to improving communication with the Utilities Protection Center (UPC) effectively. The Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) uses the penalty portion of the dig law in Georgia to guide violators into training on digging safely. The PSC has found training to be a much more effective enforcement tool than simply extracting penalties from violators. The (UPC) maintains liaisons throughout the state, assigned by Georgia DOT districts, to support local UCC meetings, perform requested training dealing with dig law requirements and acts as a direct conduit to UPC itself.



**ELEMENT 5 - PUBLIC EDUCATION**

"A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required)** No

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

The dig law in Georgia mandates membership in the Utilities Protection Center for all who own or operate buried utilities within the state. Part of the Utilities Protection Center mandate is to disseminate damage prevention information and training to all stakeholders in the state, whether it be owner/operators, locators or excavators. The Utilities Protection Center educational program partners with state and local associations to promote CGA Best Practices, education of dig law requirements and various federal requirements for all stakeholders. These education programs are spearheaded by six liaison managers, Utilities Protection Center employees tasked specifically with education, conflict resolution, and support for all stakeholders. In addition the Utilities Protection Center Digger Dog Program educates 4th grade students on underground and overhead utilities, which reaches over ten thousand students annually.



**ELEMENT 6 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

"A process for resolving disputes that defines the State authority's role as a partner and facilitator to resolve issues."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No**

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

Georgia Dig Law Act (GUFPA) provides in 25-9-13 , among other things, that the Public Service Commission will enforce the Act. That section further states that the governor shall appoint an Advisory Committee consisting of 14 members, representing all stakeholders, to assist the Commission in enforcing the Act. The Committee generally hears any and all contested investigations.



**ELEMENT 7 - ENFORCEMENT**

"Enforcement of State damage prevention laws and regulations for all aspects of the damage prevention process, including public education, and the use of civil penalties for violations assessable by the appropriate State authority."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) Yes**

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

Georgia Dig Law Act (GUFPA) provides in 25-9-13 , among other things, that the Public Service Commission will enforce the Act. That section further states that the governor shall appoint an Advisory Committee consisting of 14 members, representing all stakeholders, to assist the Commission in enforcing the Act. The Committee generally hears any and all contested investigations.

As stated above, the Public Service Commission is empowered by state law to enforce the Dig Law Act in Georgia, which can include penalties up \$10,000 for each and every violation of the Act. The Commission has seized upon this opportunity to levy penalties in a way that drives violators into training on the dig law.

**Describe how the proposed project will enhance or continue implementation of this element: (Required only if proposal addresses this element)**

Monies from the 2010 grant will allow the Public Service Commission to continue employment of David Lewis as a filed investigator assigned to investigations of third party damages to buried utilities. Mr. Lewis was hired under funds received for the 2008 SDPAP grant and continued with funds from the 2009 grant. Mr. Lewis has proved to be a valuable tool with not only the investigation of damages but also as a person to address different public groups on the requirements of the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act.

Mr. Lewis came to the program after a 32 year career with BellSouth, the last 7 of those years dedicated solely to the damage prevention program administered by the phone company. His knowledge of the industry and contacts that he had developed within the industry during his career with the phone company made him an immediate force in helping the Commission to carryout its enforcement requirements under the GUFPA.

During FY 2009, Mr. Lewis initiated 530 investigations of violations of the dig law, recommending \$931,000 in penalties. Of the recommended penalties, \$158,600 have been collected while \$629,900 were mitigated for respondents to attend training on the requirements of the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act. The difference between total recommended penalties and penalties collected/mitigated would represent a sum for those cases that have not yet been brought to closure. In addition to the investigative work accomplished, Mr. Lewis has worked to become the public face of enforcement within the state by giving 11 public presentations addressing 375 persons on the requirements of the GUFPA. Mr. Lewis was also appointed to a team for rewriting the excavator handbook distributed free of charge to the excavating community in Georgia covering the dig law as well as Commission Rules for enforcement. He worked at the International Locate Rodeo,

**ELEMENT 8 - TECHNOLOGY**

"A process for fostering and promoting the use, by all appropriate stakeholders, of improving technologies that may enhance communications, underground pipeline locating capability, and gathering and analyzing information about the accuracy and effectiveness of locating programs."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No**

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

The UPC in Georgia has fostered the International Locate Rodeo, which promotes competition among those within the locating industry. All disciplines (water, sewer, gas, telecom, and electric), are represented as areas of the competition. As a prelude to the actual competition, seminars are held to update the contestants on the latest equipment and technologies as well as locating techniques. This competition has not only benefited safe digging in the state of Georgia, it has also highlighted the damage prevention cause nationally and internationally by bringing in competitors from many other states across the country, as well as Canada. The event has spawned regional competitions in other parts of the country channeling those winners to the international event held in Georgia.

Locate Excellence is an incentive based program for locate technicians throughout Georgia, which is sponsored by the UPC, GUCC, utilities, and locate contractors. The purpose is to recognize the achievement of those in the utility locating profession and to promote mutual respect among all stakeholders.

UPC is constantly looking for new technologies that will enhance the damage prevention process, in all stages of the process. Current technologies that are used to promote safe digging are user friendly web ticket entry, up to date maps, GPS coordinate search capability for determining the location of a proposed project.

Furthermore, UPC maintains disaster recovery/business continuity policies and procedures to ensure that the Center achieves a very high accessibility rate. These policies include a secondary "hot" DR site, which houses additional servers in the event of a disaster at its primary location.



**ELEMENT 9 - DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM REVIEW**

"A process for review and analysis of the effectiveness of each program element, including a means for implementing improvements identified by such program reviews."

**Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) Yes**

**Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)**

The dig law requires that damages to buried utilities be reported to UPC, the facility owner, and in the case of serious damages to the Public Service Commission. Ultimately, the reduction of damages is the best measurement for the effectiveness of a program. The PSC has documented a significant decrease in damages over the last several years. UPC, it's member utilities, and the PSC are working together on a plan to use UPC as the central repository in Georgia for reporting utility damages. This plan will allow a single report to provide the information needed by both the PSC and the Common Ground Alliance's Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT). Once in place this will allow Georgia to more effectively measure its damage prevention efforts over time and in will also allow comparison with other States.

**Describe how the proposed project will enhance or continue implementation of this element: (Required only if proposal addresses this element)**

The PHMSA inspection that took place in July 2009 of the Georgia Pipeline Safety Program was somewhat critical of the program for its inability to mine third party damage data to its fullest potential. The current GUFPA database captures untold data on third party damages but then querying the data is cumbersome and to some extent questionable as to its accuracy. The ability to mine this data would help to identify trends developing in third party damages to buried utilities as well as identify the bad players in the program. Such trending data would allow the Commission to better utilize its meager manpower assets in those area of greatest need.

We need the ability to mine the database to extract information, analyze that information, identify trends from that analyzing and direct resources to address the trending. Software updates would provide the ability to extract information by violation code and plot a graph automatically from that mined data for readily identifiable trending. Not only would we need to mine by code, but further have the ability to associate those violation codes either by facility owner/operator or by probable violator. We would need to mine this data in a manner that would allow us to identify problem areas in the state with high concentration of violations and the specific violations reported.

We need the ability to publish performance information, cases received, cases investigated, penalties recommended, penalties collected, training attendance, collection activities and other performance measures that would identify staff activities. This information would be published thru the Commission website and other outlets to give public access to those performance measures.

## **Legislative/Regulatory Actions**

**Provide a description of any legislature or regulatory actions (including legislative/regulatory studies) taken by the State within the past five (5) years pertaining to damage prevention program improvement, even if those actions were not completely successful.**

The Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act was reopened in the 2005 legislative session with many issues addressed in the Act at that time.

Summary of Changes to GUFPA  
Senate Bill 274

25-9-3 included new definitions for:

Sewer laterals, Excavating, Farming activities, roadway maintenance, Railroads, Horizontal Directional Drilling, Large Project, Local Governing Authority, Locator, Minimally Intrusive, Permanent marker, Traffic control/Traffic Management Systems, Trenchless excavation, Unlocatable Facility and Utility Facility

29-9-5 Cooperation with UPC; permanent markers for water and sewer facilities; point of contact list.

owners or operators of water and sewer facilities that provide service from such facilities are considered facility owners or operators and shall be members of the UPC.

All such persons shall install and maintain permanent markers, as defined in Code Section 25-9-3, identifying all water and sewer facilities at the time of the facility installation.

Section 5      25-9-6 Prerequisites to blasting or excavating; marking of sites

Any person performing excavation is responsible for being aware of all information timely entered into the PRIS prior to the commencement of excavation.

Section 6      25-9-7 Determining whether utility facilities are present; information to UPC; noncompliance; future utility facilities; abandoned utility facilities.

By January 1, 2006, the advisory committee shall propose to the Public Service Commission rules and processes specific to the locating of large projects. These rules shall include, but shall not be limited to, the establishment of detailed processes. Such rules may also include changes in the time period allowed for a facility owner or operator to comply with the provisions of this chapter and to the time period for which designations are valid. The commission shall promulgate rules addressing this subsection no later than June 1, 2006.

25-9-8 Treatment of gas pipes and other underground utility facilities by blasters and excavators.

When excavating or blasting is to take place within the tolerance zone, the excavator shall exercise such reasonable care as may be necessary for the protection of the utility facility or sewer lateral, including permanent markers and paint placed to designate utility facilities.

When conducting trench-less excavation the excavator must exercise reasonable care, as described in subsection (b) of this Code section, and shall take additional care to attempt to prevent damage to utility facilities and sewer laterals. The recommendations of the HDD consortium applicable to the performance of trench-less excavation set out in the document "Horizontal Directional Drilling Good Practice Guidelines,"

Any person engaged in blasting or in excavating with mechanized excavating equipment who strikes, damages, injures, or loosens any utility facility or sewer lateral, regardless of whether the utility facility or sewer lateral is

marked, shall immediately cease such blasting or excavating and notify the UPC and the appropriate facility owner or operator, if known.

25-9-13 Penalties for violations of chapter; bonds; enforcement; advisory committee; dispose of settlement recommendations.

Any person who violates the requirements of Code Section 25-9-6 and whose subsequent excavating or blasting damages utility facilities or sewer laterals shall be strictly liable for:

Each local governing authority is authorized to require by ordinance any bonds on utility contractors or on persons performing excavation or blasting within the public right of way or any dedicated utility easement as it may determine to assure compliance.

The commission shall enforce the provisions of this chapter. The commission may promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to implement the commission's authority to enforce this chapter.

The Governor shall appoint an advisory committee consisting of persons who are employees or officials of or who represent the interests of: One member from DOT, One member from water/sewer from local governments, One member from the UPC, One member from water/sewer by counties, One member from water/sewer by municipalities, One member from non-municipal electric industry, Three members to represent excavators, One member to represent locator's, One member from the non-municipal telecommunications industry, One member from non-municipal natural gas industry, One member from municipal gas, electric, or telecommunications providers and The commission chairperson or such chairperson's designee.

All exemptions were removed.

Local Governments Penalties begin on Jan 1, 2007 for failure to locate and Begin on Jan 1, 2006 for everything else. Commission must establish tiered penalties for local governing authorities, ( this does not include gas operators) \$5,000 max per violation \$50,000 max per year

Commission investigator may require Training over penalties for all violators

In addition to changes to the Act, the Commission adopted new rules dealing with excavation activities. In 2007, the Commission adopted a Marking Standards Rule that further tightened the requirements for white lining proposed excavation as well as adopting standard marking symbols on a state wide basis.

As specified in the 2005 changes to the GUFPA, the Commission adopted rules in 2006 for the handling of large projects, large project being defined as any project greater than one linear mile or any project that would take more than 90 days to complete. This rule was further refined in 2009 by simplifying the process for the handling of those projects.



**State Damage Prevention Application Attachments**

PHMSA\_DTPH56-10-SN-0001GovPerdueLtr08182009.pdf



**SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES**

(a) Grant Program		(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e)TOTALS
8.	State Damage Prevention Program	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
9.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
10.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
11.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)		\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

**SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS**

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ <input type="text"/>				
14. Non-Federal	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ <input type="text"/>				

**SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT**

(a) Grant Program		FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS)			
		(b)First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16.	State Damage Prevention Program	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
17.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
18.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
19.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)		\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

**SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION**

21. Direct Charges: <input type="text"/>	22. Indirect Charges: <input type="text"/>
23. Remarks: <input type="text"/>	

## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application		* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision		* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify) <input type="text"/>	
* 3. Date Received: <input type="text" value="08/31/2009"/>		4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>			
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>			* 5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text"/>		
<b>State Use Only:</b>					
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>		7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>			
<b>8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:</b>					
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION"/>					
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text" value="58-6002022"/>			* c. Organizational DUNS: <input type="text" value="110305872"/>		
<b>d. Address:</b>					
* Street1:	<input type="text" value="244 Washington Street SW"/>				
Street2:	<input type="text"/>				
* City:	<input type="text" value="Atlanta"/>				
County:	<input type="text"/>				
* State:	<input type="text" value="GA: Georgia"/>				
Province:	<input type="text"/>				
* Country:	<input type="text" value="USA: UNITED STATES"/>				
* Zip / Postal Code:	<input type="text" value="30334"/>				
<b>e. Organizational Unit:</b>					
Department Name: <input type="text" value="GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMM"/>			Division Name: <input type="text" value="Facilities Protection Unit"/>		
<b>f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:</b>					
Prefix:	<input type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name:	<input type="text" value="Danny"/>		
Middle Name:	<input type="text"/>				
* Last Name:	<input type="text" value="McGriff"/>				
Suffix:	<input type="text"/>				
Title:	<input type="text" value="Director"/>				
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>					
* Telephone Number:	<input type="text" value="404-463-6526"/>	Fax Number:	<input type="text" value="404-463-6532"/>		
* Email:	<input type="text" value="dannym@psc.state.ga.us"/>				

## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

**9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

A: State Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

**\* 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

Pipeline &amp; Hazardous Material Safety Administration

**11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:**

20.720

CFDA Title:

Pipeline Safety

**\* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

DTPH56-10-SN-0001

\* Title:

State Damage Prevention Grants

**13. Competition Identification Number:**

Title:

**14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):****\* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION State Damage Prevention

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

Version 02

**\* Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following field should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent on any Federal Debt. Maximum number of characters that can be entered is 4,000. Try and avoid extra spaces and carriage returns to maximize the availability of space.

---

## CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

### Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

### Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

<b>* APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION</b>	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION"/>	
<b>* PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE</b>	
Prefix: <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name: <input style="width: 200px;" type="text" value="Danny"/> Middle Name: <input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/>
* Last Name: <input style="width: 300px;" type="text" value="McGriff"/>	Suffix: <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
* Title: <input style="width: 250px;" type="text" value="Director"/>	
* SIGNATURE: <input style="width: 300px;" type="text" value="Danny McGriff"/>	* DATE: <input style="width: 150px;" type="text" value="08/31/2009"/>



STATE OF GEORGIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Sonny Perdue  
GOVERNOR

August 18, 2009

PHMSA  
Office of Contracts and Procurement  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, E22-228  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Attn: Ms. Karina Munoz

RE: DTPH56-10-SN-0001

Dear Ms. Munoz:

Through certification by Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), the State of Georgia regulates, inspects, and enforces intrastate Natural Gas Pipeline Safety requirements. This work is performed by the Pipeline Safety Office of the Georgia Public Service Commission.

Georgia Code 25-9, Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act ("Act"), addresses damages to the buried utility infrastructure in the State of Georgia and provides for penalties for violations of the Act. The Act further provides in O.C.G.A. 25-9-13 that the Georgia Public Service Commission shall enforce the Act. Therefore, the Georgia Public Service Commission is the agency in the state eligible to receive and manage the federal grant to enhance our State Damage Prevention Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sonny Perdue".  
Sonny Perdue  
Governor