

**2012 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Final Report
CFDA Number: 20.720**

Award Number: DTPH56-12-G-PHPS21

Project Title: Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission State Damage Prevention

Date Submitted: 09/30/13

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Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement

Under this grant agreement, the IURC will:

- Develop and implement methods for effective communication;
- Foster support and partnership with stakeholders; and
- Support a Damage Prevention Education Program for industry stakeholders.

Workscope

Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 USC §60 134 through the actions it has specified in its Application.

Element (1): Participation by operators 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.

Element (2): 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.

Element (4): Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of effective employee training programs to ensure that operators, the once call center, the enforcing agency, and the excavators have partnered to design and implement training for the employees of operators, excavators, and locators.

Accomplishments for the grant period (Item 1 under Agreement Article IX, Section 9.02 Final Report: “A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.”)

The following outlines the activities and a number of accomplishments to report during the grant period.

Efforts related to the Indiana Underground Plant Protection law (IC 8-1-26) and the processing of gas related excavation damage cases have continued in earnest. During the grant period the Indiana Underground Plant Protection Advisory Committee (IUPPAC) recommended some form of penalty (warning letter, training, corrective action plan, penalties, etc.) in 720 cases heard. Thirty seven (37) training programs were conducted during the grant period in response to the IUPPAC’s recommendations. Positive responses have been received from those attending.

At the request of the IURC, the IUPPAC reviewed and revised its penalty schedule during the grant period to strengthen enforcement. It is worth noting that at its September 2013 monthly meeting the IUPPAC issued recommendations to the IURC for over \$50,000 in civil penalties for repeat violations of the states one-call laws (by both excavators and operators). As the IUPPAC is comprised of representatives from each of the stakeholder groups (operators, excavators and locators), this work directly supports Elements 1, 2 and 4.

Quantifiable Metrics/Measures of Effectiveness (Item 2 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “Where the output of the project can be quantified, a computation of the cost per unit of output.”)

At this time, no financial information is available as we have not received any invoices from the contracted party. The following metric is provided however.

A key metric or measurement related to the effectiveness of the states damage prevention efforts is in the measurement and tracking of the overall numbers of excavation damages to gas and hazardous liquid pipelines over a period of time. The following table shows that excavation damages in the state have steadily dropped over the past five years. This is especially noteworthy when considering the reductions which occurred in 2012 which was the first year of formal investigative activity and the associated efforts of the Advisory Committee. While results for 2013 are not in yet, the preliminary numbers are tracking favorably.

Year	Natural Gas and Hazardous Liquids Excavation Damages
2012	1483
2011	2299
2010	2213
2009	2220
2008	2662
2007	3330

Quality control activities conducted by a field employee of the state’s One-Call Association (Underground Safety Alliance) included field audits/inspections of excavation sites in and around central Indiana (Indianapolis area and surrounding counties) where locate requests had been made. These audits determine whether physical locate efforts were completed by the due dates. 676 such sites were visited during the reporting period where gas related pipeline locates were requested. This quality control function provides direct feedback on the effectiveness of the locate request/communications process and addresses Element 1.

Forty two (42) educational and communications meetings and events were attended during the reporting period. Regional Damage Prevention Council meetings throughout the state were attended as well as various home and farm shows and expos. These educational and communication driven activities, support Indiana’s work toward addressing Elements 1, 2 and 4.

Issues, Problems or Challenges (Item 3 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “The reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met.”)

There are no issues to report.

Final Financial Status Report

The Final Financial Status Report has been sent as a separate attachment to the AA and GOTR.

An advance request was submitted on August 2, 2013 with the funds received by the state in September. An invoice from Underground Safety Alliance for Damage Prevention efforts was received on September 1, 2013 and is currently being processed for payment.

Requests of the GOTR and/or PHMSA

No actions requested at this time.