

2012 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Progress Report
CFDA Number: 20.720

Award Number: DTPH56-12-G-PHPS14

Project Title: Nebraska Pipeline Safety Division State Damage Prevention

Date Submitted: September 26, 2013

Submitted by: Clark Conklin, Chief Deputy Fire Marshal, Pipeline Safety Section

Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement

Under this grant agreement, the Nebraska State Fire Marshal, Pipeline Safety Division will:

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

Workscope

Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 USC §60134 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 One Call Center, the enforcing agency, and the excavators have partnered to design and implement training for the employees of operators, excavators, and locators.
- *Element (5):* A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities.

Accomplishments for this period (Item 1 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: “A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.”)

Element 1 – EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

- Statewide education and distribution of white marking flags proceeded with an educational mailer/order form.
 - Mass mailing of information brochure sent June 5, 2013 to 7576 excavators and emailed June 3, 2013 to 7002 excavators across Nebraska. Distributed 585 bundles of 50 white flags to excavators in response to that mailing.

Element 2 – COMPREHENSIVE STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

- An Underground Safety Summit was held on March 1, 2013 with approximately 274 Underground Damage Prevention Stakeholders from the State of Nebraska in attendance.

Element 4 – EFFECTIVE EMPLOYEE TRAINING

- An Underground Utility Locator Workshop was held March 8, 2013 in Norfolk with approximately 37 Member Utility Locators in attendance.
- An Underground Utility Locator Workshop was held June 27, 2013 in Hastings with approximately 65 Member Utility Locators in attendance.

Element 5 – Public Education

- A letter was mailed to a list of all realtors in the State of Nebraska, approximately 2866, educating them about the importance of safe digging and offering them educational brochures for distribution to their clients.
- Billboard advertising in numerous metro and rural communities across Nebraska showing the importance of calling before you dig and safe digging.
- Radio advertising in rural communities stressing the importance of agricultural awareness during farming operations and the prime harvest time.
- Regional Excavator Breakfasts:
 - An Excavator Breakfast was held December 4, 2012 in North Platte with 45 in attendance.
 - An Excavator Breakfast was held March 8, 2013 in Norfolk with approximately 37 in attendance.
 - An Excavator Breakfast was held June 27, 2013 in Hastings, with 19 in attendance.

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.”)

Successfully quadrupled attendance of the Annual Underground Safety Summit.

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

No issues at this time.

Final Financial Status Report

The final financial report has been sent as a separate attachment to the Agreement Administrator.

Requests of the AOTR and/or PHMSA

No actions requested at this time.