

**2020 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Final Report**  
**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** 693JK32040005PSDP

**Project Title:** Kansas Corporation Commission State Damage Prevention Grant

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**Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement**

Under this grant agreement, the KCC will:

Use the costs for one full-time employee for inspections and enforcement in the Wichita and Kansas City metropolitan areas.

**Workscope**

Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Recipient will address the following elements listed in the approved application as stated in 49 U.S.C. §60134 (b).

- **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.

**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.”)**

**Enforcement Activities under Element 7:**

A full time damage investigator provided education and enforcement of KUUDPA during the grant period. The investigator developed a rapport with operators and excavators in the field and through participation in various regional and city committees and groups. Time was spent educating new excavators and operators on damage prevention laws, answering questions and providing resources and materials for future reference. Damage investigations were performed not only onsite in the metro and surrounding areas, but “offsite” as well. There were 567 damage investigations completed in this grant period including those outside the metro areas or “offsite”. Offsite investigations expand the area for regulatory enforcement. The two largest natural gas public utilities are required to promptly notify the KCC of any third party damage to a pipeline. Upon this notification of a damage outside the metro area, the investigator reviews the information provided, the database for a valid locate ticket then makes contact with the operator and/or excavator to determine if there exists a probable violation of KUUDPA. This additional contact with excavators and operators across the state has increased

awareness of damage prevention laws and accounted for 18% of all damage investigations in this grant year. In addition to investigating damages shortly after they occur, the investigators made random site visits to conduct locate ticket audits to assure that tickets were completed by the due date and that lines were marked within the scope of the ticket. This has been an excellent enforcement tool to ensure the utility operators are meeting their obligation in the constant struggle to get all facilities marked on time.

Data reflecting enforcement activity is shown below. This chart provides data specifically for KC metro and Wichita, which are Kansas' most populated areas. Offsite investigation data is also shown.

**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.”)**

### **Enforcement Activity Summary (during grant period 9/28/2020 – 9/27/2021)**

\*off sites not included in metro area data

	By Wichita Metro 2018	By Wichita Metro 2019	By Wichita Metro 2020	By Kansas City Metro 2018	By Kansas City Metro 2019	By Kansas City Metro 2020	Total Offsite 2018	Total Offsite 2019	Total Offsite 2020	Total 2018	Total 2019	Total 2020
Damage Investigations – all utilities	202	211	185	193	262	295	103	147	87	498	620	567
Damage Investigations – gas	194	206	182	187	251	295	NA	NA	84	381	457	561
PNC - Excavators	33	46	42*	80	107	89*	14	31	45	127	184	176
PNC - Utility Operators	47	54	27*	65	66	96*	18	35	50	130	155	173
PNC - TOTAL	74	100	95	146	173	185	32	66	71	252	339	351
Penalty Orders Issued	36	34	8	47	61	9	13	14	0	96	109	17
Penalties pending approval	NA	NA	20*	NA	NA	49*	NA	NA	11	NA	NA	80
Site Visits/Locate Ticket Audits	440	718	324	515	559	385	0	0	0	955	1277	709
Offsite investigations	NA	NA	38	NA	NA	49	NA	NA	87	NA	NA	174
Offsite PNC	NA	NA	34	NA	NA	37	NA	NA	71	NA	NA	142

**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, problems, or challenges to report.

**Final Financial Status Report**

The final financial report is attached.

**Requests of the AOTR and/or PHMSA**

No actions requested at this time.