**2010 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Final Report**

**Funding Opportunity Number: DTPH56-10-SN-0001**

**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** *DTPH56-10-G-PHPS13*

**Project Title:** *Dig Safely New York State Damage Prevention*

**Date Submitted:** *3/31/2011*

**Submitted by:** *Kevin Hopper*

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

*Under this grant agreement, Dig Safely New York, Inc. will facilitate 17 educational training*

*breakfasts for excavators, facility operators, municipalities, and all other stakeholders. The proposed 17 events will provide outreach in areas of the State that do not have an excavator seminar but have a damage rate which indicates a need for training.*

**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 (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.*

**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.**”

*All proposed breakfasts were held as outlined in the objective of this grant agreement. The final breakfast was held on October 27, 2010 in Cortland NY thus completing the project objective. The initial proposal budgeted for an estimated 150 attendees at each event however the events averaged approximately 72 attendees at each event resulting in the project being under budget. At the time of the midterm report we requested to expand the objective by 1 event. The request was accepted as a result of the events being under budget. In the end 17 events were held in accordance with this objective. All 17 events met the scope of the Project abstract and budget narrative. The events provided outreach in areas of the State that did not have an excavator seminar in March of 2010 but had a damage rate which indicated a need for training. The project delivered two educational breakfasts supported by each of our Damage Prevention Councils (8 total DPC’s, Damage Council Map attached). By utilizing the Damage Prevention Councils to support and facilitate these events, further stakeholder participation on a monthly basis at our Damage Prevention Council meetings has been gained.*

*Each breakfast program consisted of a presentation by the One-Call Center, the local LDC discussing elements excavators may encounter when working in the area of their service territory, the Department of Public Service and an interstate pipeline representative. A map and Participant list has been attached indicating DPC and Stakeholder participants at each event.*

*The goal of this project was to further the outreach of our training program, enhance stakeholder participation in our local Damage Prevention councils, and include local facility operators and our enforcement agency in our programs while furthering the following elements 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9. As a result of the 17 breakfast events this goal was accomplished.*

**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.”)**

*Assessment of the project indicates the event locations were held in areas of the state in need of training as illustrated by the 2009 Dig Safely New York Virtual Private DIRT Report (included in the grant application). Preliminary results from the 2010 Dig Safely New York Virtual Private DIRT data show a decrease in no-call damages from 43% in 2009 to 35% in 2010. These numbers will not be verified until after the final submission date of this grant report as the DIRT data is not due until the close of business March 31, 2011; which is the closing for this Grant Agreement. However, those preliminary results are not going to change drastically given the information already submitted to the system. As a whole, the Damage Data supports the success of this program. Again, early damage ratio’s per 1000 locations show a reduction between 2009 and 2010 in the target areas. In 11 of the 17 counties in which these damage prevention events were held, damage rates went down significantly in some areas. In the areas with an increase, the damage rates only increased marginally. An example of a marginal increase in the preliminary results was Clinton County; they reported a single damage in 2009 and a total of two damages in 2011, a marginal increase. The results of these breakfast events supports the findings outlined in the proposal that excavation training has a much more significant impact on damage reduction than any other type of 811 advertising can ever accomplish. Damage prevention is a shared responsibility and these breakfasts helped to reinforce this message as a result of the multiple stakeholder participation in the educational process. Being able to engage excavators in training related to their area and having the utility operators and enforcement agency representatives from their area present to discuss what they may encounter locally is invaluable in damage prevention.*

**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 has been sent as a separate attachment to the AA*

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

 *No actions requested at this time*