

**2014 State Damage Prevention Program Grant Progress Report**  
**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** DTPH56-14-G-PPS04

**Project Title:** Georgia Public Service Commission State Damage Prevention Grant

**Date Submitted:** *May 7, 2015*

**Submitted by:** *Michelle Thebert, Director, Facilities Protection Unit, Georgia Public Service Commission*

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

Under this grant agreement, the GA PSC will:

- Enforce the laws and regulations of the damage prevention process.

**Workscope**

Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 U.S.C. §60134 (b) through the actions it has specified in its Application.

- **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.”)**

For the mid-term progress report, the 2014 grant continues to fund a Field Investigator assigned to investigations of third party damages to buried utilities. The Field Investigator position has received continued funding by the SDP Grant since 2008, and has proved to be a valuable resource for both damage investigations and public education presentations. Additionally, the Field Investigator working under this grant is responsible for assessing civil penalties for probable violations of the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA). The specific actions taken by the Field Investigator are detailed below.

The Field Investigator position supported by the grant has made significant contributions to the Commission’s damage prevention program by investigating 208 cases for the period September 15, 2014 – March 31, 2015, and assessing \$832,500 in civil penalties and mitigating \$315,000. The Field Investigator has attended 21 meetings/events and reached 451 attendees.

**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.”)**

The following information demonstrates the public education activities conducted by the Field Investigator from September 2014 – March 2015

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
10/21/2014	Larier -Hall County GUCC	15
10/23/2014	Gilmer County GUCC	10
10/27/2014	HB Next Training Review	20
10/28/2014	GA811 Training Review	10
11/5/2014	Franklin/Hart County GUCC	20
11/6/2014	Clark/Oconee County GUCC	10
12/1/2014	Fulton County GUCC	21
1/13/2015	Douglas County GUCC	25
1/14/2015	Cobb County GUCC	30
1/21/2015	Rockdale County GUCC	15
1/28/2015	North Fulton County Meeting	35
2/4/2015	Pickens County GUCC Meeting	20
2/5/2015	Damage Prevention Review Brent Scarborough	2
2/9/2015	Henry County GUCC Meeting	20
2/11/2015	Clayton County GUCC Meeting	20
2/27/2015	Large Project Meeting w/ Georgia 811	40
3/2/2015	Fulton County GUCC Meeting	48
3/10/2015	Forsyth/Dawson County GUCC Meeting	20
3/12/2015	Barrow County GUCC Meeting	15
3/18/2015	Cherokee County GUCC Meeting	25
3/26/2015	Gwinnett County GUCC Meeting	30
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21 Meetings and Events</b>	<b>451 Attendees</b>

**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 to report

**Mid-Term Financial Status Report**

	9/15/2014 to 3/31/2015
<b>Salary</b>	23,566.76
<b>FICA</b>	1,652.89
<b>Retirement - 18.46%</b>	5,175.24
<b>Health - 30.781%</b>	7,176.96
<b>workers compensation</b>	0.00
<b>merit system assessment</b>	54.75
<b>drug testing</b>	29.95
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<b>Total Fringes</b>	14,089.79
<b>300 personal svcs</b>	37,656.55
<b>612 motor Veh operating exp</b>	975.82
<b>613 printing</b>	42.00
<b>614 supplies/uniform</b>	36.38
<b>616 equipment not inventory</b>	283.96
<b>619 parking (\$30/month)</b>	0.00
<b>640 travel</b>	0.00
<b>Total 301 regular operating</b>	1,338.16
<b>305 computer charge</b>	74.06
<b>307 voice/data communication</b>	333.27
<b>312 - Contractual Services</b>	0.00
<b>Total Direct Charges</b>	39,402.04
<b>Indirect Charges (10%)</b>	3,940.20
<b>Total expense</b>	<b>43,342.24</b>

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

No actions requested at this time.