



GEORGIA811
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DAMAGE PREVENTION SUMMIT

PSC RULE 515-9-4.13

- **PROCEDURES FOR LARGE PROJECTS**

DEFINITION

- Mechanized excavation or blasting
 - Contiguous geographical site or area over one linear mile
- OR
- More than 90 days

PURPOSE

- Because most large projects require multiple re-stakes, it has proven difficult and cumbersome for **facility owner/operators** to respond to locate requests within the 48 hour notice time frame normally required by the Georgia Underground Facility Protection Act (“GUFPA”).

PURPOSE

- **Excavators** on such large projects lasting for months and even years have similarly found it cumbersome and oppressive to have a locate ticket expire after 30 calendar days and have to reapply for renewal or refreshing of such locate ticket repeatedly over the life of a large project.

PURPOSE

- This Rule allows for parameters to be set for **all parties** involved in a large project so that such parties may enjoy more flexibility and less rigidity in reporting without any loss or sacrifice in the record-keeping, locating of utility facilities, prevention of damage to such facilities, and public safety protections which GUFPA was designed and intended to implement.

PROCEDURES

- Upon an excavator's contacting the Utilities Protection Center to procure a locate ticket and upon the UPC's concluding that the proposed excavation qualifies as a large project ticket the UPC shall provide instructions for excavator(s) that the involved excavation project shall be treated as a large project under Commission rules and that the excavator has a duty to submit to the UPC a Large Project Planning Meeting Notification.

PROCEDURES

RENEWALS (UPC POLICY)

- The maximum number of times a Normal Ticket can be updated may not exceed two times after its creation or exceed a period of 90 days

SUBCONTRACTORS

- Any person holding an active large project ticket may allow any dually authorized subcontractors to work under such large project ticket provided the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 25- 9-6(g) are met. For purposes of this rule, any contractual agreement entered into pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 25-9-6(g) shall be in writing.

SUBCONTRACTORS

- EXCAVATORS OTHER THAN THE PERSON PLANNING THE EXCAVATION MAY CONDUCT SUCH ACTIVITY, PROVIDED THE PERSON PLANNING THE EXCAVATING SHALL REMAIN RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT ANY STAKES OR MARKINGS REMAIN IN PLACE AND REASONABLY VISIBLE UNTIL SUCH EXCAVATION IS COMPLETED.

LP (DON'TS)

- EXCAVATORS REFUSE TO NEGOTIATE
- UTILITY/LOCATORS “SANDBAG” EXCAVATORS
- EXCAVATORS ENTER NORMAL TICKETS VIA WEB TO CIRCUMVENT THE LP PROCESS

LP (DON'TS)

- Dates that are agreed to on the marking agreements is not being honored by the locator and is not being marked.
- Utilities/locators code a ticket 10C agree to treat as LP agreement signed but have never attended a meeting and did not sign the agreement.

LP (DON'TS)

- Excavators show up with no paperwork
- Utilities/locators do not show to the LP Meeting

IT WORKS IF YOU WORK IT

- New LP Rule coming soon!!
- Changes will be helpful to all parties
- Safety is the upmost concern

