

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                               STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                               1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

4   ENGROSSED SENATE  
5   BILL NO. 1008

By: Allen of the Senate

and

O'Donnell of the House

6                   **[ Oklahoma Underground Facilities Damage Prevention**

7                   **Act - modifying timeline requiring operator to**

8                   **locate and mark underground facilities - effective**

9                   **date ]**

10                   ~~BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:~~

11                   SECTION 1.       AMENDATORY       63 O.S. 2011, Section 142.2, as  
12                   last amended by Section 1, Chapter 136, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp.  
13                   2018, Section 142.2), is amended to read as follows:

14                   Section 142.2. As used in the Oklahoma Underground Facilities  
15                   Damage Prevention Act:

16                   1. "Certified project" means a project where the public agency  
17                   responsible for the public project, as part of its procedure,  
18                   certifies that the project right-of-way is free and clear of  
19                   underground facilities or wherein the public agency responsible for

1 such project, as part of its procedure, notifies all persons  
2 determined by the public agency to have underground facilities  
3 located within the construction right-of-way and certifies that all  
4 known underground facilities are duly located or noted on the  
5 engineering drawings for the project;

6 2. "Damage" means any impact upon or removal of support from an  
7 underground facility as a result of explosion, excavation or  
8 demolition which according to the operating practices of the  
9 operator of the underground facilities would necessitate the repair  
10 thereof;

11 3. "Demolish" means to wreck, raze, render, move or remove a  
12 structure by means of any equipment or explosive;

13 4. "Demolition" means the act or operation of demolishing a  
14 structure;

15 5. "Excavate" means to dig, compress or remove earth, rock or  
16 other materials in or on the ground by use of mechanized equipment  
17 or blasting, including, but not necessarily limited to, augering,  
18 boring, backfilling, drilling, grading, pile driving, plowing in,  
19 pulling in, trenching, tunneling and plowing; provided, however,  
20 that neither:

- 21 a. the moving of earth by tools manipulated only by human  
22 or animal power, ~~nor~~ except in a private or public  
23 right-of-way,  
24

- b. any form of cultivation for agricultural purposes, nor  
any augering, dozing by noncommercial dozer operators  
or digging for postholes, farm ponds, land clearing or  
other normal agricultural purposes, ~~nor~~
- c. routine maintenance, ~~nor~~
- d. work by a public agency or its contractors on a  
preengineered project, ~~nor~~
- e. work on a certified project, ~~nor~~
- f. work on a permitted project, ~~nor~~
- g. the opening of a grave in a cemetery, ~~nor~~
- h. a solid waste disposal site which is a preengineered  
project, nor
- i. any individual excavating on his or her own property  
and who is not in the excavating business for hire,  
except in a private or public right-of-way,

shall be deemed excavation;

6. "Excavation" means the act or operation of excavating;

7. "Excavator" means a person or public agency that intends to  
excavate or demolish within the State of Oklahoma;

8. "Notification center" means the statewide center currently  
known as the Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc., which has as one of its  
purposes to receive notification of planned excavation and  
demolition in a specified area from excavators, and to disseminate

1 such notification of planned excavation or demolition to operators  
2 who are members and participants;

3 9. "Operator" shall mean and include any person or public  
4 agency owning or operating underground facilities;

5 10. "Permitted project" means a project where a permit for the  
6 work to be performed must be issued by a state or federal agency  
7 and, as a prerequisite to receiving such permit, the applicant must  
8 locate all underground facilities in the area of the work and in the  
9 vicinity of any blasting and notify each owner of such underground  
10 facilities;

11 11. "Person" includes any individual, partnership, corporation,  
12 association, cooperative, trust or other entity, including a person  
13 engaged as a contractor by a public agency, but not including a  
14 public agency;

15 12. "Preengineered project" means a public project wherein the  
16 public agency responsible for such project, as part of its  
17 engineering and contract procedures, holds a meeting prior to the  
18 commencement of any construction work on such project in which all  
19 persons, determined by the public agency to have underground  
20 facilities located within the construction area of the project, are  
21 invited to attend and given an opportunity to verify or inform the  
22 public agency of the location of their underground facilities, if  
23 any, within the construction area and where the location of all  
24

1 known underground facilities are duly located or noted on the  
2 engineering drawing and specifications for the project;

3 13. "Public agency" means the state or any board, commission or  
4 agency of the state;

5 14. "Routine maintenance" means the grading of roads and barrow  
6 or drainage ditches, the removal and replacement of pavement,  
7 including excavation relating thereto and the installation and  
8 maintenance of drainage and bridge facilities, signs, guardrails,  
9 and electrical and communications facilities in or on the public  
10 rights-of-way by a public agency; and

11 15. "Underground facility" means any underground line, cable,  
12 facility, system and appurtenances thereto, for producing, storing,  
13 conveying, transmitting or distributing communication (including  
14 voice, video, or data information), electricity, power, light, heat,  
15 intrastate and interstate gas pipelines, as described in 49 CFR Part  
16 192.1, intrastate and interstate hazardous liquid or carbon dioxide  
17 pipelines, as described in 49 CFR Part 195.1, water (including storm  
18 water), steam, sewage and other commodities and any oil and gas  
19 pipeline located in a public right-of-way.

20 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 142.6, as  
21 amended by Section 2, Chapter 151, O.S.L. 2016 (63 O.S. Supp. 2018,  
22 Section 142.6), is amended to read as follows:

23 Section 142.6. A. Before an excavator shall demolish a  
24 structure, discharge any explosive or commence to excavate in a

1 highway, street, alley or other public ground or way, on or near the  
2 location of an operator's underground facilities, or a private  
3 easement, such excavator shall first notify all operators in the  
4 geographic area defined by the notification center who have on file  
5 with the notification center a notice pursuant to Section 142.3 of  
6 this title to determine whether any operators have underground  
7 facilities in or near the proposed area of excavation or demolition.  
8 When an excavator has knowledge that an operator does not have  
9 underground facilities within the area of the proposed excavation,  
10 the excavator need not notify the operator of the proposed  
11 excavation. However, an excavator shall be responsible for damage  
12 to the underground facilities of an operator if the notification  
13 center was not notified. Notice shall be given no more than ten  
14 (10) days nor less than forty-eight (48) hours, not including the  
15 date of notification and excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal  
16 holidays, prior to the commencement of the excavation or demolition.

17 B. Each operator served with notice in accordance with  
18 subsection A above either directly or by notice to the notification  
19 center shall, ~~within forty-eight (48) hours after receipt of~~  
20 ~~verification from the notification center that the notice has been~~  
21 ~~accepted and acknowledged, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal~~  
22 ~~holidays, unless otherwise agreed to between the excavator and~~  
23 ~~operator~~ prior to the date and time work is scheduled to begin,  
24 locate and mark or otherwise provide the approximate location of the

1 underground facilities of the operator in a manner as to enable the  
2 excavator to employ hand-dug test holes to determine the precise  
3 location of the underground facilities in advance of excavation.  
4 For the purpose of ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Underground Facilities  
5 Damage Prevention Act, the approximate location of the underground  
6 facilities shall be defined as a strip of land two (2) feet on  
7 either side of such underground facilities. Whenever an operator is  
8 served with notice of an excavation or demolition and determines  
9 that the operator does not have underground facilities located  
10 within the proposed area of excavation or demolition, the operator  
11 shall communicate this information to the excavator originating the  
12 notice prior to the commencement of such excavation or demolition.

13 C. The only exception to subsection A of this section shall be  
14 when an emergency exists that endangers life, health or property.  
15 Under these conditions, excavation operations may begin immediately,  
16 providing reasonable precautions are taken to protect underground  
17 facilities. All operators of underground facilities within the area  
18 of the emergency must be notified promptly when an emergency  
19 requires excavation prior to the location of the underground  
20 facilities being marked.

21 D. Every notice given by an excavator to an operator pursuant  
22 to this section or to the notification center pursuant to Section  
23 142.3 of this title shall contain at least the following  
24 information:

1        1. The name of the individual serving such notice;  
2        2. The location of the proposed area of excavation or  
3 demolition;  
4        3. The name, address and telephone number of the excavator or  
5 excavator's company;  
6        4. The excavator's field telephone number, if one is available;  
7        5. The type and the extent of the proposed work;  
8        6. Whether or not the discharging of explosives is anticipated;  
9 and  
10       7. The date and time when work is to begin.  
11       E. In marking the approximate location of underground  
12 facilities, an operator shall follow the standard color coding  
13 described herein:  
14       OPERATOR AND TYPE OF PRODUCT                      SPECIFIC GROUP IDENTIFYING COLOR  
15       Electric Power Distribution  
16           and Transmission    Safety Red  
17       Municipal Electric Systems                                      Safety Red  
18       Gas Distribution and  
19           Transmission    High Visibility Safety Yellow  
20       Oil Distribution and  
21           Transmission    High Visibility Safety Yellow  
22       Dangerous Materials, Product  
23           Lines, Steam Lines    High Visibility Safety Yellow  
24



1	Telephone and Telegraph	
2	Systems	Safety Alert Orange
3	Police and Fire	
4	Communications	Safety Alert Orange
5	Cable Television	Safety Alert Orange
6	Water Systems	Safety Precaution Blue
7	Slurry Systems	Safety Precaution Blue
8	Sewer Systems	Safety Green

9 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

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11 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES,  
12 dated 04/02/2019 - DO PASS, As Amended.

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