

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

SENATE BILL 1225

By: Allen

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act; amending 63 O.S. 2011, Section 142.6, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 148, O.S.L. 2019 (63 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 142.6), which relates to notice of proposed demolition, explosion or excavation; limiting extent of proposed work in notification; updating statutory reference; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 142.6, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 148, O.S.L. 2019 (63 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 142.6), is amended to read as follows:

Section 142.6. A. Before an excavator shall demolish a structure, discharge any explosive or commence to excavate in a highway, street, alley or other public ground or way, on or near the location of an operator's underground facilities, or a private easement, such excavator shall first notify all operators in the geographic area defined by the notification center who have on file with the notification center a notice pursuant to Section 142.3 of this title to determine whether any operators have underground

1 facilities in or near the proposed area of excavation or demolition.
2 When an excavator has knowledge that an operator does not have
3 underground facilities within the area of the proposed excavation,
4 the excavator need not notify the operator of the proposed
5 excavation. However, an excavator shall be responsible for damage
6 to the underground facilities of an operator if the notification
7 center was not notified. Notice shall be given no more than ten
8 (10) days nor less than forty-eight (48) hours, excluding the date
9 of notification, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the
10 commencement of the excavation or demolition.

11 B. Each operator served with notice in accordance with
12 subsection A of this section either directly or by notice to the
13 notification center shall, prior to the date and time work is
14 scheduled to begin, unless otherwise agreed to between the excavator
15 and operator, locate and mark or otherwise provide the approximate
16 location of the underground facilities of the operator in a manner
17 as to enable the excavator to employ hand-dug test holes to
18 determine the precise location of the underground facilities in
19 advance of excavation. For the purpose of ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma
20 Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act, the approximate
21 location of the underground facilities shall be defined as a strip
22 of land two (2) feet on either side of such underground facilities.
23 Whenever an operator is served with notice of an excavation or
24 demolition and determines that the operator does not have

1 underground facilities located within the proposed area of
2 excavation or demolition, the operator shall communicate this
3 information to the excavator originating the notice prior to the
4 commencement of such excavation or demolition.

5 C. The only exception to subsection A of this section shall be
6 when an emergency exists that endangers life, health or property.
7 Under these conditions, excavation operations may begin immediately,
8 providing reasonable precautions are taken to protect underground
9 facilities. All operators of underground facilities within the area
10 of the emergency must be notified promptly when an emergency
11 requires excavation prior to the location of the underground
12 facilities being marked.

13 D. Every notice given by an excavator to an operator pursuant
14 to this section or to the notification center pursuant to Section
15 142.3 of this title shall contain at least the following
16 information:

- 17 1. The name of the individual serving such notice;
- 18 2. The location of the proposed area of excavation or
19 demolition;
- 20 3. The name, address and telephone number of the excavator or
21 excavator's company;
- 22 4. The excavator's field telephone number, if one is available;
- 23 5. The type and the extent, which shall not exceed one thousand
24 (1,000) linear feet, of the proposed work;

1 6. Whether or not the discharging of explosives is anticipated;

2 and

3 7. The date and time when work is to begin.

4 E. In marking the approximate location of underground
5 facilities, an operator shall follow the standard color coding
6 described herein:

7 OPERATOR AND TYPE OF PRODUCT	SPECIFIC GROUP IDENTIFYING COLOR
8 Electric Power Distribution	
9 and Transmission	Safety Red
10 Municipal Electric Systems	Safety Red
11 Gas Distribution and	
12 Transmission	High Visibility Safety Yellow
13 Oil Distribution and	
14 Transmission	High Visibility Safety Yellow
15 Dangerous Materials, Product	
16 Lines, Steam Lines	High Visibility Safety Yellow
17 Telephone and Telegraph	
18 Systems	Safety Alert Orange
19 Police and Fire	
20 Communications	Safety Alert Orange
21 Cable Television	Safety Alert Orange
22 Water Systems	Safety Precaution Blue
23 Slurry Systems	Safety Precaution Blue
24 Sewer Systems	Safety Green

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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