

SECTION 02015

PROTECTION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.01 PROJECT CONDITIONS:

- A. In preparation for and prior to commencing with the excavation work required by this Project, Contractor shall comply with the requirements of Pennsylvania Underground Utility Line Protection Act, Act 287 of 1974, as amended by Act 50 of 2017, Underground Utility Protection Law AKA PA One Call Law (the Law) and this specification Section.
- B. The existence and location of underground utilities shown on the Drawings is based on information supplied by the underground utility owners to the Developer's Engineer in accordance with the Law. Neither the Authority nor the Engineer warrants the accuracy of this information; this information is intended to serve as notification that such utilities exist in the general proximity of the Work. .
 - 1. Contractor shall be responsible for the protection against direct or indirect injury of known existing underground pipes, conduits, utilities, and structures, or other property in the vicinity of the Work, or those that may be discovered during performance of the Work.
 - 2. Contractor shall maintain on site, during performance of the Work, a sufficient quantity of suitable materials, for sustaining or supporting any structure or utility that may be uncovered, which may be weakened, or otherwise compromised, whether or not such structure or utility is indicated on the Drawings.
- C. The Contractor shall comply with notification provisions of the Law. Excavation shall only begin after notification by the Contractor of its intent to dig, is given to the One-Call System, within the time required by the Law. Damage to existing utilities resulting from the failure of the Contractor to follow the notification requirements of the Law shall be at Contractor's expense and no additional compensation will be provided.
 - 1. Contractor shall notify the utility not less than three nor more than ten business days prior to beginning excavation or demolition work.
 - 2. In case of complex projects notification shall be given not less than ten business days prior to beginning excavation or demolition work.
 - 3. If the Contractor removes its equipment and vacates the work site for more than two business days, (s)he shall notify the One Call System again, unless other arrangements have been made directly with the utility owner(s) involved.
 - 4. If the location of excavation changes, a new notification shall be made.
 - 5. Contractor shall provide the One-Call System with specific information to identify the site of the proposed work. Contractor shall provide any other information requested by the One-Call System.

6. Contractor shall obtain a serial number from the One Call System evidencing compliance with notification requirements of the Law.
7. Contractor shall schedule and conduct a preconstruction meeting with the utility owners. Written notice of this meeting shall be provided to the Engineer a minimum of seven (7) business days in advance of the meeting. When a utility owner, with facilities located within the project area, requests a meeting with the Contractor, the Contractor shall promptly arrange and attend such a meeting. Contractor shall provide full accounting of any such meetings to the Engineer.
8. If the utility owner fails to respond to the Contractor's request to the One Call System, or the facility owner notifies Contractor that the utility cannot be marked within the time frame, and a mutually agreeable date for marking cannot be arrived at, the Contractor may proceed with excavation as scheduled, but not earlier than the lawful dig date.
9. If the Contractor has reason to believe that the facilities have been overlooked or marked incorrectly, the Contractor shall contact the One Call System and re-notify the utility owner. If, after re-notification, sufficient information to safely excavate is still not provided, Contractor shall be compensated, by the Developer, in accordance with the payment provisions of the Law and of the Contract, for all costs resulting from repairs to, or replacement of damaged, existing underground utilities or structures.

- D. Contractor shall establish procedures, for emergency action and repairs to utilities accidentally damaged during construction, with the utility owners prior to the commencement of work. During the course of the work, if the Contractor accidentally damages an existing utility, the Contractor shall immediately follow the established procedures for emergency action and repairs. accidentally damaged during construction, with the utility owners prior to the commencement of work. During the course of the work, if the Contractor accidentally damages an existing utility, the Contractor shall immediately follow the established procedures for emergency action and repairs.
1. Contractor shall immediately notify 911 and the utility owner if the damage results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, hazardous or corrosive gas or liquid, which endangers life, health, or property.
 2. Contractor will not be subject to liability, or incur any obligation to utility owner, or others who sustain injury to person or property, if Contractor has complied with the terms of the Law and has not otherwise been negligent.
 3. When the Contractor damages a utility during the excavation work and the damage results in personal injury or property damage to parties other than the Contractor or the utility owner, the Contractor shall submit an incident report to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and to any other agency required by the Law, no later than ten (10) business days after the incident. A copy of the incident report shall also be submitted to the Engineer and Owner.

- E. **Provided that existing services had been correctly marked prior to excavation operations and further provided that the Contractor did not further damage the existing service line(s)**, when the Contractor, during the progress of the excavation,

uncovers utility services, which because of previous (concealed) damage or age are in poor condition, the Contractor shall immediately notify the utility owner in order that steps may be taken for replacement or repair.

1. Locations of repairs, and the procedures of repairs that have been made by Contractor, at the direction of the utility owner, shall be recorded by the Contractor.
 2. Contractor shall be compensated, by the Developer, in accordance with the payment provisions of the Law and of the Conditions of the Contract, for all costs resulting from repairs, or replacement authorized by the utility owner.
 3. In the event the Contractor, during the progress of the excavation, further damages the existing service line(s) (s)he shall be responsible for the resulting costs.
- F. Pipes, conduits, and other underground utilities exposed as a result of the Contractor's operations, shall be adequately supported, along their entire exposed length, by timber or planking, installed in such a manner that the anchorage of the supporting members will not be disturbed or weakened during the backfilling operations. Backfill of selected material shall be carefully placed and compacted under and around the supports, and all supports shall be left in place as a guard against breakage of the supported facility due to trench settlement.
- G. Contractor shall perform exploratory excavations when, in the opinion of the Engineer, the utility owner, or the Developer, it is necessary to determine, or confirm the location(s) of existing underground structures and utilities.
1. Contractor shall excavate test pits to determine the location and elevation of existing subsurface utilities, or structure(s) at locations where indicated on the Drawings and other areas as directed by the Engineer. Excavate such test pits in the presence of an authorized representative of the utility/structure owner. Contractor may not proceed with excavation work without the prior notification and approval of the owner of the subsurface utility, or structure(s).
 2. Contractor may not proceed with excavation work in locations where new utility lines are to be connected to existing utility lines until test pits have been dug and the exact location and elevation of the existing utility has been determined.
 3. Work required for digging test pits at the request of the Engineer, utility owners or other interested parties will be classified as "Miscellaneous Unclassified Excavation".
 4. Test pits or other miscellaneous excavation performed for the Contractor's convenience will be at Contractor's expense.
- H. Contractor shall plan the excavation to avoid damage to or minimize interference with underground utilities in the construction area. Excavation that requires temporary or permanent interruption of a utility service shall be coordinated with the affected utility owner.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS SECTION

PART 3 - EXECUTION

NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS SECTION

END OF SECTION