




SAFETY ALERT LEVEL: DANGER

4/20/2016

Topic: Why We Must Locate All Utilities and Hand Dig

We have struck 9 utilities in 7 months. It is unsafe, costs time, money and our reputation. *And, it's avoidable!*

Requirements and Recommendations

What happened?	What are the requirements?	Why do we need to get this right?
		
<p>Since the end of October 2015 through today (4/20/15), we have struck nine (9) utilities on our projects!</p> <p>Why? Several of them involved lack of proper pre-tasking, and a few of them involved incorrect potholing.</p> <p>What needs to be done? Locating utilities and pre-tasking for an excavation must be completed, and must adhere to code. It's required by law, and it's required by Rudolph & Sletten for your safety.</p>	<p>Potholing or excavating by using hand tools while near utilities is required by both Cal/OSHA Article 6 and California Government Code Section 4216.</p> <p>As noted within 4216.4 "... the excavator shall determine the exact location...with hand tools..."</p> <p>This section also covers additional requirements, if you choose to use a vacuum truck to locate utilities. Further, the code requires that if the utility cannot be found by hand tools, then further information MUST be requested by the excavator.</p>	<p>A picture is worth a thousand words: Yes this is a person engulfed in flames after he was simply driving a metal bar into the dirt. In 2009, this person drove a bar through an 11,000-volt underground cable and was severely burned. This was not an R&S project. We can avoid this and other utility strikes by accurate as-builts when we install the utility and by using 811, our clients' knowledge and the many utility location companies available.</p> <p>Bottom line: Do not make any assumptions, and exhaust all options before anything penetrates the dirt/concrete/asphalt!</p>

For More Information: References

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excavation Pre-Task Meeting Checklist Excavation and Trenching Permit Dig Alert 811: www.California811.org | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAL/OSHA Regulations Article 6. Excavation Section 1539-1547 CA Government Code Section 4216- |
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The Safest



The Best