

STATE OF NEW JERSEY Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.ni.gov/bpu/

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IN THE MATTER OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE UNDERGROUND FACILITY PROTECTION ACT, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-73 <u>ET SEQ.</u>

RELIABILITY & SECURITY

ORDER ACCEPTING SETTLEMENTS

DOCKET NOs. GS13080790K, et al. (see attached appendix)

Parties of Record:

Craig Lynch, New Jersey Natural Gas Co. Ricky Harding, Elizabethtown Gas Co. Frank Coriano, Public Service Electric and Gas Co. M. Bryan, Passaic Valley Water Commission Joseph Deluca, Jonico Inc. Spiro Mitrow, Atlas Concrete R. Evans, Brick M.U.A. John Holmes, N.J. Department of Human Services Wayne Souders, J.Souders and Son Excavating T. Watkins, Carroll Engineering Corp. Mike Adoni, Mike Adoni L.L.C. Matthew Esposito, Esposito Construction Mike Smit, Shore Top Construction Mark Sohwartz, J.F. Kiely Construction Co

BY THE BOARD:

The Board of Public Utilities ("Board") has jurisdiction to oversee and enforce the provisions of the Underground Facility Protection Act ("the Act") pursuant to the provisions set forth in <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-73, <u>et seq.</u> The primary purpose of the Act is to establish the One-Call Damage Prevention System for the protection of underground facilities that are used for the conveyance of water, forced sewage, telecommunications, cable television, electricity, oil, petroleum products, gas, optical signals, traffic control, or for the transportation of a hazardous liquid. In declaring its findings and the purpose of the Act, the Legislature stated, in pertinent part:

Agenda Date: 11/22/13 Agenda Item: 6A That damage to underground facilities caused by excavation and the discharge of explosives poses a significant risk to the public safety; that such damage to underground natural gas facilities poses a substantial risk to the public safety; and that the implementation of a comprehensive One-Call Damage Prevention System can substantially reduce the frequency of damage caused by these activities.

The Legislature therefore determines that it is in the public interest for the State to require all operators of underground facilities to participate in a One-Call Damage Prevention System and to require all excavators to notify the One-Call Damage Prevention System prior to excavation or demolition.

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-74.

The Act defines "excavator" as "any person performing excavation or demolition," and "operator" as "a person owning or operating, or controlling the operation of, an underground facility..." <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-75. The One-Call Damage Prevention System ("the System") coordinates communication and responsive action between these two groups of persons. <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-80, -82.

The Act subjects violators of its provisions to civil penalties of not less than \$1,000.00 and not more than \$2,500.00 per violation per day, not to exceed \$25,000 for any related series of violations. <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-88(a). Violations relating to natural gas or hazardous liquid underground pipelines or distribution facilities shall subject the violator to civil penalties not to exceed \$100,000.00 per violation per day and not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for any related series of violations. In addition, a violator may be assessed the cost of any Board investigation, inspection or monitoring survey which leads to the establishment of a violation and for the reasonable costs of preparing and litigating the matter. <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-86(b)(2).

Following reports of failure to call the System prior to commencing excavation or demolition activities, failure to hand dig and locate facilities, failure to use reasonable care, or reports of failure to mark out underground facilities or properly mark them, Board Staff contacted the entities listed on the attached Appendix and informed them of the date and location of the alleged violations, also listed on the Appendix.

In an attempt to resolve these matters, each excavator or operator listed on the Appendix has submitted an Offer of Settlement to the Board for its consideration. Each such Offer of Settlement is summarized in the Appendix. The Offers of Settlement were made available to the Board for its review. After consideration of these matters, the Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> these Offers of Settlement to be reasonable and in the public interest, and <u>HEREBY ACCEPTS</u> these Offers of Settlement in full satisfaction of the above referenced alleged violations of the Act.

By acceptance of the various Offers of Settlement and the timely payment thereof, the excavator or operator has waived any rights to a hearing, and the Board has waived any rights to bring an action for civil penalties as permitted by the Underground Facility Protection Act in connection with the above-referenced alleged violations of the Act. It must also be noted that the acceptance of the Offers of Settlement are for settlement purposes only, and apply strictly to the specific incidents described in the Appendix. This acceptance is without prejudice as to the position of the State of New Jersey or any agency or subdivision thereof if other violations are present, now or in the future.

NO FURTHER ACTION BY THE RESPONDENTS IS REQUIRED

This Order shall be effective on November 29, 2013.

DATED: 11/22/13

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

ROBERT M. HANN PRESIDENT

ANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER

Mary-Ana Holder

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

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JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO CØMMISSIONER

DIANNE SÕLOMON COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY

HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Unitides

IN THE MATTER OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE UNDERGROUND FACILITY PROTECTION ACT, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-73 ET.SEQ. ORDER ACCEPTING SETTLEMENTS DOCKET NOS. GS13080790K et al. (see attached appendix)

SERVICE LIST

Craig Lynch, Vice President	Wayne Souders
New Jersey Natural Gas Company	J.Souders and Son Excavating
1415 Wyckoff Rd. Box 1464	3349 Dante Ave.
Wall NJ 07719	Vineland NJ 08361
Ricky Harding	T. Watkins
Elizabethtown Gas Co.	Carroll Engineering Corp
520 Green Lane	949 Easton Rd.
Union NJ 07083	Warrington Pa 18976
Frank Coriano	Mike Adoni
Public Service Electric and Gas	Mike Adoni LLC
80 Park Plaza Mail Code T14	16 Franklin Street
Newark NJ 07101	Mahwah NJ 07430
M. Bryan	Matthew Esposito
Passaic Valley Water Commission	Esposito Construction
1525 Main Ave	253 Main St.
Clifton NJ 07011	Matawan NJ 07747
Joseph Deluca	Mike Smit
Jonico Inc.	Shore Top Construction
Box 751	2803 Bridge Ave
Lambertville NJ 08530	Point Pleasant Beach NJ 08742
Spiro Mitrow	Mark Sohwartz
Atlas Concrete	J.F. Kiely Construction Co
40 Brunswick Ave	700 McClellan St.
Edison NJ 08817	Long Branch NJ 07740
R. Evans Brick MUA 1551 Highway 88 Brick NJ 08724	James Giuliano, Director Division of Reliability & Security Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9 th Floor Post Office Box 350
John Holmes N.J. Department of Human Services Ancora Hospital 301 Spring Garden Rd.	Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 Douglas Ziemba, Chief Engineer Division of Reliability & Security
Hammonton NJ 08037	Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9 th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

Geoffrey Gersten, DAG	James P Kane Esq.
State of New Jersey	Counsel's Office
Department of Law & Public Safety	Board of Public Utilities
Division of Law	44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
124 Halsey Street	Post Office Box 350
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Newark, NJ 07101-45029	-

IN THE MATTER OF: ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE UNDERGROUND FACILITY PROTECTION ACT, N.J.S.A. 48:2-73 ET.SEQ. ORDER ACCEPTING SETTLEMENTS

Bureau of One Call - Settlements - APPENDIX-November 2013

			Bureau of One	<u>لة ب</u>	II - Setti	ements -APPE	NDIX-NOVEITID	er <u>2015</u>		
				Per	ualty	Operator	Excavator	Violation. Date	Description/Location	Payment Received
Damege, Gas	GS13080790K	GOC2010-0046	·	\$	3,000.00	Elizabethtown Gas	÷	04/26/10	Elizabeth Ave. Linden	11/20/12
Damage, Gas	GS13080791K	GOC2010-0047	Did not properly mark out	\$	3,000.00	Elizabethtown Gas	<u> </u>	04/28/10	6th Ave, Roselle	11/20/12
Damage, Gas	GS13080792K	GOC2010-0048	Did not have a valid markout	\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	NJ Natural Gas	03/21/10	Riverside Rd. Neptune	12/05/12
Damage, Gas Damage,	GS13080793K	GOC2010-0049	Did not have a valid markout Did not have a valid	\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	NJ Natural Gas	03/29/10	Castlewall Rd. Elberton	12/05/12
Gas Damage,	GS13080794K	GOC2010-0050		\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	JF Kiely Const	05/10/10	María Dr, Toms River	11/29/12
Gas	GS13080795K	GOC2010-0051	out	\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	-	05/11/10	Rt 36 Hazlet	12/28/12
Damagê, Gas	GS13080796K	GOC2010-0056		ş	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	Shore Top Const	05/13/10	Woodview Ave. Whiting	03/22/13
Damage, Gas	GS13080797K	GOC2010-0059		\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	Esposito Const.	05/06/10	Rt 34, Malawan	03/22/13
Demage, Gas	GS13080798K	GOC2010-0062		\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	Mike Adani LLC	06/03/10	Konner Rd. Montville	11/29/12
Damage, Gas	GS13080800K	GOC2010-0067	Did not have a valid markout Did not have a valid	\$	3,000.00	SJG	Carroll Engineering	C6/10/10	Bambridge Dr. Harrison	11/14/12
Damage, Gas	GS13080801K	GOC2010-0068		\$	3,000.00	sjg	NJ Dept Human Svc Ancora Maintance	06/14/10	Lake Dr. Winslow Twp	01/17/13
Damaga, Gaa	GS13080802K	GOC2010-0070	markout	\$	3,000.00	SJG	J. Souders and Son	06/18/10	Salvatore Dr. Mullica	11/30/12
Demage, Gas	GS13080803K	GOC2010-0074	<u> </u>	\$	3,000.00	PSE&G	-	05/26/10	Broadmead St. Princeton	11/21/12
Damage, Gas	GS13080804K	GOC2010-0075	Failure to Use Reasonable Care	\$	1,000.00	PSE&G	Passaic Valley Water	05/28/10	13th Ave. Paterson	03/22/13
Camage, Gas	GS13080805K	GOC2010-0078	Did not have a valid markout	\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	Atlas Concrete	07/08/10	rt 35 Holmdel	03/25/13
Damage, Ges	GS13080806K	GOC2010-0083	Did not have a valid markout	\$	3,000.00	PSE&G	Jonico Inc	08/03/10	Orchard Rd Montgomery	03/09/13
Damage, Gaz	GS13080807K	GOC2010-0085		\$	6,000.00	Elizabethtown Gas	•	08/04/10	Main St. Hackettstown	12/06/12
Damage, [*] Gas	GS13080808K	GOC2010-0090	and the second se	\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas	Ərick MUA	07/27/10	Spruce Dr. Brick Twsp	11/27/12
Damage, Gas	GS13080809K	GOC2010-0097	Did not properly mark out	\$	3,000.00	NJ Natural Gas		08/10/10	Eagle Dr. Towaco	12/28/12
Total	19			\$	58,000.00					