

NORTH SKY COMMUNICATIONS

Amended April 28, 2021
Originally sent April 15, 2021

Washington UTC
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

State Of WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

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To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter in support of North Sky Communications, LLC request for mitigation of penalty assessment DG-200470 of April 6, 2021 under Docket DG-210184. This is in reference to the violation of RCW 19.122.030 which occurred on May 12, 2020 near 9441 NE 16th St., Clyde Hill, WA.

The crew operating in the field during this time consisted of the following members: J Beattie, acting foreman; A Pliler, laborer; J Bias, operator. This crew reported at the time to Underground Construction Supervisor J Kotulan. The supervisor and foreman failed to renew dig ticket 20100522 prior to continuing work in this area which had been ongoing and held up by both our customer and local authorities in the area. Photos taken from the scene at the time of the incident show the locate marks were still visible at the time of the incident. The crew were utilizing safe and acceptable means when excavating in the area of the damaged gas service line by hand-digging.

The crew had uncovered and determined the exact location of the gas service prior to the damage occurring. Approximately 3 feet of the service line were visible to all members of the crew when the laborer, A Pliler, using the hand shovel at the time, damaged the gas service due to carelessness. A Pliler is no longer with the company. The supervisor, J Kotulan, has accepted a position elsewhere following notice of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission investigation into this incident and is no longer with the company.

Please review the enclosed materials which has been marked Confidential pursuant to WAC 480-07-160 in your evaluation of our request to mitigate this assessed penalty of \$10,000.00. These materials include copies of the crew operator's Trenching and Excavation Competent Person training, JSA, photos of the area following the damage and employment status of A Pliler and J Kotulan. Please contact me should you need to review our training material(s) and/or relevant safety manual chapters. The information provided has been reviewed and redacted as it

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NORTH SKY **COMMUNICATIONS**

contains personally identifiable information and proprietary customer and client information which is not relevant to this citation.

Sincerely,

Joshua Dickens
Claim Manager | North Sky Communications
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