

Washington State Dig Law Safety Committee

1673 S Market Blvd, #121 Chehalis, WA 98532

D-240859

November 13, 2024

Received Records Management Nov 14, 2024

Committee Members
Represent:

Local Government

Natural Gas Utility

Contractors

Excavators

Electric Utility

Consumer Owned Utility

Pipeline Utility

Water Utility

Utilities and Transportation Commission

Telecommunications
Company

Three At-Large Positions Jeff Killip, Executive Director, and Secretary UTC Records Center Utilities and Transportation Commission 621 Woodland Square Loop SE Lacey, WA 98503

Re: Review Committee Decision – Complaint Cases 24-088, 24-089, and 24-090 NW Natural Gas vs Drew Excavating, Inc.

Dear Mr. Killip:

The Washington State Dig Law Safety Committee (committee) received three complaints filed by NW Natural Gas against Drew Excavating, Inc. (Drew Excavating) regarding potential violations of the Washington State Dig Law RCW 19.122.030.

On Nov. 5, 2024, the committee formed a peer review board and reviewed Complaint Cases 24-088, 24-089, and 24-090.

The peer review board determined that:

Drew Excavating violated RCW 19.122.030(2) one time for failure to provide notice to a one-number locator service not less than two business days before the scheduled excavation date.

Drew Excavating violated RCW 19.122.040(2) two times for failure to determine the precise location of underground facilities which have been marked.

Drew Excavating violated RCW 19.122.050(1) one time for failure to report damage to an underground facility operator, a one-number locator service, and report the damage as required.

Therefore, the committee recommends a total penalty of \$10,000 be assessed to the respondent as follows:

- \$2,500 for one violation of RCW 19.122.030(2) that occurred on Aug. 16, 2024, at 5156 N 91st Ave, Camas, WA.
- \$2,500 for one violation of RCW 19.122.040(2) that occurred on July 15, 2024, at 1351 N Kalani Loop, Ridgefield, WA.
- \$2,500 for one violation of RCW 19.122.040(2) that occurred on Sept. 24, 2024, at 908 S 29th Place, Ridgefield, WA
- \$2,500 for one violation of RCW 19.122.050(1) that occurred approximately early June 2024, at 908 S 29th Place, Ridgefield, WA, and discovered on Sept. 24, 2024

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Additionally, the committee recommends a deferral opportunity be offered to suspend \$2,500 of the \$10,000 total, based on the conditions that all company management and field crews responsible for excavation at Drew Excavating attend in-person NUCA Dig Safe Training; and the company incurs no additional violations of RCW 19.122 within the next 12 months.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this recommendation. You may contact me at 206-794-9823.

Sincerely,

Jim Walton, Chair

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WA State Dig Law Safety Committee

cc: Marina Rathbun, UTC

Jaimie Lemke, NW Natural Gas

Mike and Laura Drew, Drew Excavating