

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Penalty Assessment against
SEFNCO COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
in the amount of \$10,000

DOCKET PL-171148
DECLARATION OF
MICHAEL MCAFFERY

1 I, MICHAEL MCAFFERY, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of
Washington, declare as follows:

2 I am over 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of
Washington, and competent to be a witness.

3 I am employed by Tacoma Water, which is a part of the City of Tacoma Public
Utilities department, as a locator. I have held this position since 2014, and I have worked at
Tacoma Water for 15 years

4 My duties involve performing locates for my employer. When I receive notice that a
locate is needed, I travel to the site of the proposed excavation and mark the location of any
Tacoma Water lines in blue paint.

5 On July 26, 2017, A Tacoma Water Locator performed a locate in Tacoma
associated with Washington One Call Ticket No. 17284954 for SEFNCO Communications,
Inc. (SEFNCO). White paint markings were observed at the pole at locate address. The
paint markings only included the building and the pole. Tacoma Water has lines in the area,
but no lines located within the white markings that were observed. The Tacoma Water
Locator indicated in blue paint that Tacoma Water did not have lines within the white
marks.

6 On August 1, 2017, I received a call from a Tacoma Water Service Supervisor
asking me to respond to the area SEFNCO was currently working at 100th St S., to verify if

we had assets near the location they were currently working. I proceeded to 100th St S. that same afternoon, arriving at approximately 1:30 pm. When I arrived SEFNCO was not boring. The SEFNCO foreman told me that another SEFNCO foreman put white paint down in an area that didn't reflect the current work area. The bore needed to go all the way to the east side of A St S. I witnessed a SEFNCO employee was painting a white line working West across A St. S. and along Northside of 100th St. S. to indicate the planned path of the bore. I informed the SEFNCO foreman that Tacoma Water has a 10" AC main on the Southside of 100th St. S. and along the Westside of A St. S. running North from the intersection. Blue painted was put down to identify it Tacoma Water's mains. White locate brackets were not painted at that time for SEFNCO's planned boring. I advised the SEFNCO foreman and the lead onsite to call in an extension to the located excavation area. I recommended this action to avoid confusion and to ensure the other utilities had a chance to locate their assets prior to the planned work.

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On August 2, 2017, SEFNCO's drill hit the McChord pipeline. During the ensuing investigation, I learned that SEFNCO had also damaged the Tacoma Water 10" AC main I located on August 1, 2017.

DATED at Tacoma, Washington, and effective this 12th day of April, 2018.


MICHAEL MCAFFREY