

Case 16-022

Watterson Excavation

07/05/2016

Ty Watterson
Watterson Excavating
718 Griffin Ave #90
Enumclaw, WA 98022

Date: 07/01/2016

Location: 3525 223rd Ave SE, Sammamish WA

Violation: RCW 19.122.050 (I), Burying a damage facility prior to notification and repair; RCW 19.122.30 (6)(a), Failure to maintain location marks

Ticket #: 16195800

Summary:

On 06/29/2016 our 5/8" PE stub gas facility was damaged a Watterson excavation crew. In violation of RCW 19.122.050 (1) (the "state dig law" is contained in its entirety in RCW 19.122), the gas facility was then taped off and buried prior to notification of the damage and subsequent repair. The damaged facility was reported a day later, a gas first response worker was dispatched, and the damaged facility was found to be still leaking. This caused an unsafe condition for the public, our first responders, and other workers that could have resulted in severe injury or loss of life. Our gas first response worker also observed that the location marks had not been maintained. This is a violation of RCW 19.122.30 (6)(a).

Timeline details:

On 06/01/2016 Scott Sammons received a voicemail from Brad from Watterson Excavating. He had questions about a recent fine their company had received and showed interest in additional training. Erika Hunter, took his contact information and passed it on to Don Evans, executive administrator of Washington 811 so that he could schedule a training for Watterson and its crew to ensure they understood the dig law. Don followed up with Erika on 06/16/2016 to say that he had tried to contact Brad but had not received a response back. Erika again contacted Brad to reiterate the importance of scheduling the training as soon as possible and Brad responded with affirmation that he would. As of 07/01/2016 Don Evans has not received a phone call from Watterson.

On 07/01/2016 the damage was reported at 9:45 am and we responded to the site at 10 am. When our gas worker, Matt Morris, arrived Watterson Excavating had the road graded and were getting ready to pave. The onsite project manager said they were just going to cut out a patch of blacktop where the gas facility was broken so Puget Sound Energy could repair it whenever they showed up. Once Matt saw the locate wire sticking out of the ground where they buried it, it became clear to him that the break had not occurred immediately prior to his arrival. After asking when the damage had occurred he was told that it had occurred "yesterday" by the project manager, Ty Watterson. When he dug up the line it was still leaking and he could hear it hissing. The project manager said that he didn't it was leaking and that he thought it was capped off. The line was approximately two feet deep, buried and compacted in

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crushed rock. He repaired the leak. At that time, he also noted on his report that he did not see any marks visible on the ground and that they had not been maintained.

This is the S" time Watterson Excavating has damaged our facilities since OS/28/2015 through careless digging, digging without locates, and now in violation of the two above named RCW sections. According to RCW 19.122.070 (2) "In those cases in which an excavator fails to notify known facility operators of a one-number locator service, any damage to the underground facility is deemed willful and malicious and is subject to treble damages."

PIUGET SOUND ENERGY
The Puget Sound Energy Group

REPORT OF DAMAGE TO
 GAS FACILITIES
 PREPARED FOR LEGAL COUNSEL

CLAIM NUMBER 186573-6a
ORDER NO. 5034g0-0 NOI/Q: 55

TO BE COMPLETED BY FIELD PERSONNEL

DATE & TIME 7/11/2016 10:00	
ADDRESS OF OCCURRENCE 3525 223RD AVE SE SAMMAMISH	
HOUSE NO. OR LOT NO.	3525 223RD AVE SE SAMMAMISH SAMMAMISH
REPORTING PERSON TY WATTERSON	TY WATTERSON
NAME OF CONTRACTOR CAUSING DAMAGE WATTERSON EXCAVATING	STATE CONTRACTOR LIC. #
NAME OF PERSON CAUSING DAMAGE TY WATTERSON	
ADDRESS FOR PARTY CAUSING DAMAGE 71B GRIFFIN AVE #90	CITY ENUMCLAW g0022 360-825-6333
TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR	TYPE OF EQUIPMENT CAUSING DAMAGE BACKHOETRACKHOE
WITNESS NAME L. G. DR. ESS OF WITNESS	rtiONE
() AT FACILITY DAMAGED? () PMD () SERVICICE (STUS. EXT.) () MSA OEPH OF LINE AT TIME OF DAMAGE: () IN. SIZE OF HOLE: () IN. SIZE OF PIPE: () IN. TYPE OF PIPE BROKEN: () PE-A () STEEL () EVERED? LOCATION OF DAMAGE: () SIZE OF DAMAGE: () IN. () YES () NO -C'LoF -g -1= 32KP41&11:Cl:ol WCL nJWINElif TIME DURATION OF LEAKAGE: () HOURS () HIGH PRESSURE () LOW PRESSURE () INTERMEDIATE PRESSURE	
DESCRIBE CIRCUMSTANCES CAUSING DAMAGE: CONTRACTOR, DEVELOPING NEW FILA T BROKE SLIPPE STUB LINE WAS BROKE PREVIOUS DAY, BUT NOT REPORTED UNTIL THIS MORNING. CONTRACTOR CRIMPED IT OFF AND BACKFILLED IT.	
BASED ON YOUR OBSERVATION WAS FACILITY PROPERLY MAINTAINED? () YES () NO	
EXPLANATION:	
() CONTRACTOR CALLED FOR LOCATES? () YES () NO IF YES, WHEN 6/23/2016 LOCATES MARKED? WAS FACILITY FLATTED? () YES () NO YEAR OF MICROFICHE 2015. WERE MARKS ACCURATELY MARKED? () YES () NO WERE MARKS CORRECT? () YES () NO () PAVEMENT () GRASS () OTHER () PANT DOTMARKS (IF NO, HOW FAR OFF?) () IN. () ORT () CURB () STAKE WERE MARKS MAINTAINED? () YES () NO WAS FACILITY EXPOSED BY HAND? () YES () NO	
RIGHT-OF-WAY WHERE EVENT OCCURRED	FUBIIC-CITY STREET
TYPE OF EXCAVATION EQUIPMENT	BACKHOETRACKHOE
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED	SITE DEVELOPMENT
TYPE OF EXCAVATOR	CONTRACTOR
FACILITY AFFECTED	SERVICE
COMPLETED BY MORRIS	FJTIER 7/11/2016
COMMENTS: NO MARKS VISIBLE ON THE GROUND, NOT MAINTAINED.	

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RESPONDING PERSONNEL (To be completed by Rttter on site.,

NAME	POSITION	ENROUTE	RESPONSE TIMES	
			011 SITE	LEAVE SITE
MORRISM	UWTRN1	9:59:3&AM	10:19:35AM	12:20:37PM
THORSON	CFSTECH	10:00:43AM	10:44:23AM	10:44:51AM

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEAL TICKETS:

BACKHOE TIME

COMPANY (NIIME),HOLJRS'NORKED:

EXCAVATOR DOWNTIME VERIFICATION

DID EXCAVATOR INCIUR DOWNTIME? NO
DID THE CCN1W<CTOR HAVE TO PILL OFF TIE JOB DUE TO THE C,,s LEAK? NO
IF THE CON'JR.'w-<CTOR 'NAS UNASLE TO WORK OUIING THE D1P.ATI01f OF THE
GAD LEAA. ESTIMATED LENGTH OF OOINTIME? 0
DID THE DAA'P,GE CAUS Eff..H INTER.RUPTION OF SEFW:ICE? NO

COMMENTS:







1.









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Hunter, Erika

From: Hunter, Erika
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 9:17 AM
To: Gadzik, Charlie
Cc: Arrington, Roger; Hunter, Erika
Subject: FW: 3525 223rd Ave SE
Sammamish

From: Arrington, Roger
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 9:11 AM
To: Hunter, Erika
Subject: Fwd: 3525 223rd Ave SE Sammamish

Charlie,

Here is the email string and a link to the mobile workforce report. Unfortunately we didn't get a picture because the report says they didn't maintain their mark either.

<http://Upsewebapps!MWF!Reports2fPSEGFRMMORRIS20M20160701115307.PDF>

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Schueneman, Steven T" <Steven.Schueneman@pse.com>
Date: July 1, 2016 at 12:26:50 PM PDT
To: "Morris, Matt" <Matt.Morris@pse.com>, "Jared, Jay" <jay.jared@pse.com>, "Arrington, Roger" <Roger.Arrington@pse.com>
Subject: RE: 3525 223rd Ave SE Sammamish

I agree, and thanks for the heads up. Roger - perhaps you can work your magic with these guys?

From: Morris, Matt
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 12:11 PM
To: Schueneman, Steven T; Jared, Jay; Arrington, Roger
Subject: FW: 3525 223rd Ave SE Sammamish

Just wanted to give all of you a heads up about a break I had today, Watterson Excavating broke a 5/8" PE stub yesterday, taped it off and backfilled it. They called it in around 9:45 this morning.

When I showed up they had the road all graded and were getting ready to pave, the project manager I talked to onsite said they were just going to cut out a patch of blacktop where it was broken so we could repair it whenever we showed up. Once I saw the locate wire sticking up out of the ground marking where it they buried it, it became very clear that this didn't just happen. I asked how long ago they hit it and with a smirk the project manager told me "yesterday".

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2.

When I dug it up it was still leaking and I could actually hear it hissing a little bit, he said he didn't think it was leaking and that he thought it was capped *off*. The line was approximately two feet deep, buried and compacted in crushed rock.

I don't think I have ever recommended triple billing someone before, but if there is ever a case that warrants it, I feel like this is it. These guys did not seem to take this very seriously and this is the kind of behavior that gets people injured or even killed.

Roger,

I left you a voice mail, if you have any other questions or need more info just give me a call.

Thanks,

Matt (206) 375-3931