

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 HOUSE BILL 2097

By: O'Donnell

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public health and safety; amending
8 63 O.S. 2011, Section 142.2, as last amended by
9 Section 1, Chapter 136, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp.
10 2018, Section 142.2), which relates to the
11 underground facilities damage prevention act;
12 modifying definitions; and providing an effective
13 date.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 142.2, as
16 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 136, O.S.L. 2018 (63 O.S. Supp.
17 2018, Section 142.2), is amended to read as follows:

18 Section 142.2 As used in the Oklahoma Underground Facilities
19 Damage Prevention Act:

20 1. "Certified project" means a project where the public agency
21 responsible for the public project, as part of its procedure,
22 certifies that the project right-of-way is free and clear of
23 underground facilities or wherein the public agency responsible for
24 such project, as part of its procedure, notifies all persons
determined by the public agency to have underground facilities

1 located within the construction right-of-way and certifies that all
2 known underground facilities are duly located or noted on the
3 engineering drawings for the project;

4 2. "Damage" means any impact upon or removal of support from an
5 underground facility as a result of explosion, excavation or
6 demolition which according to the operating practices of the
7 operator of the underground facilities would necessitate the repair
8 thereof;

9 3. "Demolish" means to wreck, raze, render, move or remove a
10 structure by means of any equipment or explosive;

11 4. "Demolition" means the act or operation of demolishing a
12 structure;

13 5. "Excavate" means to dig, compress or remove earth, rock or
14 other materials in or on the ground by use of mechanized equipment
15 or blasting, including, but not necessarily limited to, augering,
16 boring, backfilling, drilling, grading, pile driving, plowing in,
17 pulling in, trenching, tunneling and plowing; provided, however,
18 that neither:

19 a. the moving of earth by tools manipulated only by human
20 or animal power, except in a private or public
21 easement or right-of-way, nor

22 b. any form of cultivation for agricultural purposes, nor
23 any augering, dozing by noncommercial dozer operators
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- 1 or digging for postholes, farm ponds, land clearing or
2 other normal agricultural purposes, nor
3 c. routine maintenance, nor
4 d. work by a public agency or its contractors on a
5 preengineered project, nor
6 e. work on a certified project, nor
7 f. work on a permitted project, nor
8 g. the opening of a grave in a cemetery, nor
9 h. a solid waste disposal site which is a preengineered
10 project, nor
11 i. any individual excavating on his own property and who
12 is not in the excavating business for hire, except in
13 a private or public easement or right-of-way,

14 shall be deemed excavation;

15 6. "Excavation" means the act or operation of excavating;

16 7. "Excavator" means a person or public agency that intends to
17 excavate or demolish within the State of Oklahoma;

18 8. "Notification center" means the statewide center currently
19 known as the Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc., which has as one of its
20 purposes to receive notification of planned excavation and
21 demolition in a specified area from excavators, and to disseminate
22 such notification of planned excavation or demolition to operators
23 who are members and participants;

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1 9. "Operator" shall mean and include any person or public
2 agency owning or operating underground facilities;

3 10. "Permitted project" means a project where a permit for the
4 work to be performed must be issued by a state or federal agency
5 and, as a prerequisite to receiving such permit, the applicant must
6 locate all underground facilities in the area of the work and in the
7 vicinity of any blasting and notify each owner of such underground
8 facilities;

9 11. "Person" includes any individual, partnership, corporation,
10 association, cooperative, trust or other entity, including a person
11 engaged as a contractor by a public agency, but not including a
12 public agency;

13 12. "Preengineered project" means a public project wherein the
14 public agency responsible for such project, as part of its
15 engineering and contract procedures, holds a meeting prior to the
16 commencement of any construction work on such project in which all
17 persons, determined by the public agency to have underground
18 facilities located within the construction area of the project, are
19 invited to attend and given an opportunity to verify or inform the
20 public agency of the location of their underground facilities, if
21 any, within the construction area and where the location of all
22 known underground facilities are duly located or noted on the
23 engineering drawing and specifications for the project;

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1 13. "Public agency" means the state or any board, commission or
2 agency of the state;

3 14. "Routine maintenance" means the grading of roads and barrow
4 or drainage ditches, the removal and replacement of pavement,
5 including excavation relating thereto and the installation and
6 maintenance of drainage and bridge facilities, signs, guardrails,
7 and electrical and communications facilities in or on the public
8 rights-of-way by a public agency; and

9 15. "Underground facility" means any underground line, cable,
10 facility, system and appurtenances thereto, for producing, storing,
11 conveying, transmitting or distributing communication (including
12 voice, video, or data information), electricity, power, light, heat,
13 intrastate and interstate gas pipelines, as described in 49 CFR Part
14 192.1, intrastate and interstate hazardous liquid or carbon dioxide
15 pipelines, as described in 49 CFR Part 195.1, water (including storm
16 water), steam, sewage and other commodities and any oil and gas
17 pipeline located in a public right-of-way.

18 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.

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20 57-1-7091 JBH 12/17/18

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