

BEFORE THE SOUTH DAKOTA
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT
FILED BY MONTANA DAKOTA
UTILITIES, RAPID CITY, SD AGAINST
C E LANDSCAPES, RAPID CITY, SD, FOR
AN INCIDENT OCCURRING ON AUGUST
20, 2020 AT 650 ENCHANTED PINES DR,
RAPID CITY, SD.

**ORDER ADOPTING ENFORCEMENT
PANEL RECOMMENDATION TO THE
SOUTH DAKOTA ONE CALL BOARD**

OC20-056

On August 31, 2020, the South Dakota One Call Board received a Complaint filed by Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (herein "Claimant"), against C.E. Landscapes, L.L.C. (herein "Respondent"), for an incident occurring on August 20, 2020, at 650 Enchanted Pines Dr, Rapid City, SD. The Complaint alleges violations of SDCL 49-7A-8 and 49-7A-12 when Respondent was digging a trench with an excavator to install irrigation for a home owner and hit the gas service line to the home. Claimant alleges Respondent did have a valid locate ticket and should have pot holed to verify depth of gas line before digging across the line.

A copy of the Complaint was sent to Respondent on September 2, 2020. The deadline to respond was September 21, 2020. Respondent has answered the Complaint as of September 18, 2020 and does dispute that a violation of South Dakota One Call law occurred. Respondent alleges the utility was not marked correctly and that extra precautions were taken.

On September 24, 2020, the Enforcement Panel (herein "Panel") convened pursuant the authority present in SDCL 49-7A. The Panel does find probable cause that unintentional violations of SDCL 49-7A-8 and SDCL 49-7A-12 occurred.

Based upon the evidence presented in the filings, the Panel recommends a penalty of \$1,000 with \$750 suspended for the violation of SDCL 49-7A-8 and a penalty of \$1,000 with \$750 suspended for the violation of SDCL 49-7A-12 for a total penalty of \$2,000 with \$1,500 suspended upon the conditions listed below. The conditions for the suspended penalty are as follows:

1. Respondent must not be found guilty of a One-Call violation within 12 months of the Board Order,
2. The penalty payment of **\$500** must be made to **P.O. Box 187, Rapid City, SD 57709.**

3. Respondent must attend a Damage Prevention meeting in 2021.
4. Respondent must conduct an in-house safety meeting to discuss South Dakota One Call laws. Detail of the discussion material, date, and length of the meeting along with printed and signed names of attendees will be submitted to the Executive Director of South Dakota One Call within thirty (30) days of the Board Order being issued.
5. Respondent will arrange a face-to-face meeting with Claimant to review the damage, dangers while working around utilities, and safe practices. This meeting is to take place within thirty (30) days of the Board Order being issued.

If any of the above conditions are not met, the suspended penalty (**\$1,500**) becomes immediately due and payable to **P.O. Box 187, Rapid City, SD 57709**.

On October 26, 2020, the Panel's recommendation was sent to the parties to this action. The parties did not request an evidentiary hearing. The Board reviewed the Panel's recommendations at its November 17, 2020 meeting pursuant to SDCL 49-7A-27. The Panel's recommendation was approved by the Board. It is now, therefore:

ORDERED, that the South Dakota One Call Board adopts the recommendations of the Panel as a final resolution of this Complaint. The Panel's findings are attached hereto and shall be considered fully incorporated herein.

ORDERED, that if the penalty is not paid, that the Board shall pursue any rights it has under the law regarding collections.

The South Dakota One Call Notification Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26 and 49-7A and ARSD Article 20:25, specifically SDCL 49-7A-5, 49-7A-18, 49-7A-20, 49-7A-22, and 49-7A-26.

Dated this 10th day of December 2020.

BY ORDER OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION BOARD:

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Fay Sandreau
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