

BEFORE THE SOUTH DAKOTA
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT
FILED BY MONTANA DAKOTA
UTILITIES, RAPID CITY, SD AGAINST
CSI, SIOUX FALLS, SD, FOR AN
INCIDENT OCCURRING ON OCTOBER 5,
2020 AT 23605 WILDERNESS CANYON,
RAPID CITY, SD.

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

OC20-076

On October 19, 2020, the South Dakota One Call Board received a Complaint filed by Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (herein “Claimant”), against Cable Specialists Inc. (herein “Respondent”), for an incident occurring on October 5, 2020, at 23605 Wilderness Canyon, Rapid City, SD. The Complaint alleges violations of SDCL 49-7A-5 and 49-7A-8 when Respondent was using a mini excavator to dig a bell hole for the bore machine and hit the two-inch (2”) poly-gas main with the tooth on the bucket. Claimant alleges gas was blowing and both 811 and 911 were notified. Claimant also alleges Respondent did not have a valid locate ticket for this area at the time of the damage.

A copy of the Complaint and an Offer of Complaint Resolution (herein “Offer”) was sent to Respondent on October 20, 2020. The deadline to respond to the Complaint or accept the Offer was November 10, 2020. Respondent did not accept the Offer. Respondent has not answered the Complaint as of November 12, 2020.

On November 12, 2020, the Enforcement Panel (herein “Panel”) convened pursuant the authority present in SDCL 49-7A. The Panel does find probable cause that intentional violations of SDCL 49-7A-5 and SDCL 49-7A-8 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-5 and a penalty of \$1,000 with \$750 suspended for the violation of SDCL 49-7A-8 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**.

The Panel recommends the South Dakota One Call Board accept its findings and recommendations herein. If either party to this Complaint disagrees or objects to the recommendations or findings herein, a hearing may be requested. To request a hearing, a party must reply within twenty (20) days from the date of service of this notice. Failure to request a hearing is considered acceptance of the recommendations and findings herein.

The South Dakota One Call Notification Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-7A and ARSD 20:25.