

BEFORE THE SOUTH DAKOTA
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT
FILED BY MONTANA DAKOTA
UTILITIES, RAPID CITY, SD AGAINST
ANDY COYLE CONSTRUCTION,
SPEARFISH, SD, FOR AN INCIDENT
OCCURRING ON OCTOBER 12, 2020 AT
3715 HILLSVIEW ROAD, SPEARFISH,
SD.

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

OC20-079

On October 22, 2020, the South Dakota One Call Board received a Complaint filed by Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (herein "Claimant"), against Andy Coyle Construction LLC (herein "Respondent"), for an incident occurring on October 12, 2020, at 3715 Hillsview Road, Spearfish, SD. The Complaint alleges violations of SDCL 49-7A-5 and 49-7A-8 when Respondent was digging/grading and hit a 3/4" plastic service line. Claimant alleges Respondent did not have a valid locate ticket at the time of the damage. Gas was not blowing; 811 was notified, and 911 was not notified.

A copy of the Complaint and Offer of Complaint Resolution was sent to Respondent on October 22, 2020. The deadline to respond to the Complaint or accept the Offer was November 12, 2020. Respondent had not answered the Complaint as of December 17, 2020. Respondent did not accept the Offer of Complaint Resolution.

On December 17, 2020, the Enforcement Panel (herein "Panel") convened pursuant to the authority present in SDCL 49-7A. The Panel does find probable cause that an intentional violation of SDCL 49-7A-5 occurred. The Panel does not find probable cause that a violation of SDCL 49-7A-8 occurred as a contractor cannot work to avoid the utility when a locate is not submitted from the start. Therefore, the Panel recommends the violation of 49-7A-8 be dismissed.

Based upon the evidence presented in the filings, the Panel recommends a penalty of \$1,000 with \$750 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 **\$250** must be made to **South Dakota One Call Notification Board 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 (**\$750**) becomes immediately due and payable to **South Dakota One Call Notification Board, 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.