Submission information

Form: Transaction Record Wording Proposal

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Transaction Record (TR) Number TR-2015-01

Is this a modification to an existing practice? Yes

If yes, please provide the existing practice number (i.e. 4-3). 2-5

Is this a proposed new practice? No

Proposed Practice Statement

The presence and type of underground facilities are indicated by permanent aboveground and belowground markers and material.

Proposed Practice Description

A combination of aboveground and belowground markers is used to identify and locate underground facilities. The facility is color-coded in accordance with the American Public Works Association (APWA) guidelines to assist in identifying an aboveground or below ground facility.

The purpose of aboveground markers is to identify underground facilities, not to locate for excavation or circumvent the one call process. However, designing underground facilities for future location reduces the risk of an incorrectly marked underground facility during an excavation project. Aboveground markers are developed during the design process and include the company name, type of facility, emergency contact, and the one call number. The locations and types of markers are specified in the construction plans. The design provides a marker system that includes, but is not limited to, stream crossings, public road crossings, other facilities' rights-of-way, railroad crossings, heavy construction areas, and any other location where it is necessary to identify the underground facility location. If nondetectable facilities are being installed, the design includes a means to accurately locate the underground facility from the surface. Road decals, stencils, tracer tapes, electronic markers, or other appropriate systems may mark areas where traditional markers are considered impractical.

The purpose of below ground markers is to identify underground facilities. Below ground markers are used in conjunction with above ground markers. Below ground markers may include tracer wire, warning tape, and/or electronic marking devices. More than one type of below ground marker may be used. Installation of below ground markers should comply with AGA, ANSI, or other industry standards or governing regulations including but not limited to, using a coated corrosion resistant wire, installing cathodic protection, proper grounding, marking the end placement or approximate location of below

ground markers with aboveground markers, protecting below ground markers from damage during backfill operations, and placement/method of installation.

Proposed References

49 CFR Parts 192 and 195
•Industry standards –
•AGA Plastic Pipe Manual for Gas Service, 2006 Edition
•APWA, “Guidelines for Uniform Temporary Marking of Underground Facilities”
•ANSI ASC GPTC Z380 Gas Piping Technology Guide (https://www.aga.org/gptc)
•NFPA-70 (2014), “National Electrical Code”

Additional comments/notes for committee consideration

The proposed revision includes:
1. Adding additional types of below ground markers
2. Separating above ground and below ground markers in practice description,
3. Moving the APWA color coded language to the first paragraph as it applies to both above ground and below ground markers, and
4. Adding a description for the installation of below ground markers.
Additional references were also added.

Proposal File Upload TR-2015-01-Revision to CGA Best Practice 2–5 Markers for Underground Facilities 1 5 2016.docx