



Transaction Record Wording - TR 2019-01

Task Team Chair Name (First and Last)

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Transaction Record (TR) Number

TR 2019-01 Modification to 5-19 Excavation Tolerance Zone and 5-20 Excavation within the Tolerance Zone

Proposed Practice Modification: 5-19 Excavation Tolerance Zone

Before the actual location of a facility is known the excavator observes a tolerance zone that is comprised of the width of the facility plus 18 in. on either side of the outside edge of the underground facility on a horizontal plane as indicated by the field locate markings. Once the facility has been located and exposed, the tolerance zone is comprised of 18 in. perpendicular to any outside edge of the underground facility. This practice is not intended to preempt existing or any state/provincial requirements that currently specify a tolerance zone of more than 18 in. Please reference CGA BP 5.20 for information regarding methods of excavation within the Tolerance Zone.

Proposed Practice Modification: 5-20 Excavation within the Tolerance Zone

When excavation is to take place within the specified tolerance zone, the excavator exercises such reasonable care as may be necessary to locate and to protect any underground facility in or near the excavation area. The excavation methods to consider, based on certain climate or geographical conditions, may include hand digging when practical, hand probes, soft digging, vacuum excavation methods, pneumatic hand tools, or other mechanical methods with approval of the facility owner / operator. When these excavation methods within the tolerance zone have reached their practical limits, as determined by the excavator, mechanical excavation may be used to remove material in zones determined to not contain the facility. This process of hand digging, and mechanical removal shall continue until the precise location of the underground facility is located or the excavation has reached the planned depth. Once the underground facility is located and exposed mechanical excavation equipment may be used with reasonable care within the tolerance zone. Hand digging and other non-invasive methods are not required for pavement removal.