**CALIFORNIA UNDERGROUND SAFETY BOARD**
**INVESTIGATION DIVISION**

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**Date:** July 23, 2026
**Case No.:** N250381210

**Violations:**
Meram Construction Inc.

| | |
|---|---|
| Government Code § 4216.2(b): | Excavating without first notifying the regional notification center of intent to excavate. |
| Government Code § 4216.4(c)(1): | Excavator failure to call 911 emergency services upon causing damage to subsurface installation resulting in the escape of flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid. |

**Executive Summary:**
On February 3, 2025, Meram Construction Inc., was digging using a mini-excavator without first contacting the regional notification center and damaged a 1-inch plastic natural gas installation while grading to stabilize a retaining wall that had structural failure. Upon the escape of gas from the subsurface installation, Meram Construction Inc., did not call 911 emergency services to report it. No one was injured and no equipment, other than the 1-inch plastic natural gas installation, was damaged.

**Reporting Party Information:**
San Diego Gas and Electric
555 West 5th Street, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90013

**Date of Incident:**
February 3, 2025

**Location of the Incident:**
3316 Indian Mills Lane
Jamul, California 91935

**Operator:**
San Diego Gas and Electric
555 West 5th Street, Suite 1700

Los Angeles, California 90013

**Excavator:**
Meram Construction Inc.
312 Highland Avenue, Suite 200
El Cajon, California 92020

**Subsurface Installation Type Damaged:**
1-inch Plastic natural gas

**Notification of the Incident**
On February 7, 2025, San Diego Gas and Electric submitted a notification of an incident to the California Underground Safety Board. The notification stated, “Irvin Meram owner of Meram Construction who stated his crew damaged the 1" poly service line while grading with mechanized equipment.” (Exh. 1.)

**Excavation and Damage**
Government Code section 4216(g) defines “excavation” to be the use of tools or equipment to move or displace earth, rock, or other material in the ground.

On February 3, 2025, Meram Construction Inc., used a mini excavator (Exh. 8.) to perform grading work at 3316 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul, California 91935. (Exh. 1., Photo 1.)

Irvin Meram (Meram), President of Meram Construction Inc., stated the “Foreman was excavating in an area away from the gas meter up against a retaining wall. Work was being done to stabilize a retaining wall that had structural failure. Gas line was not underground and went thru the side of retaining wall.” (Exh. 2.)

Meram stated that “gas line away from gas meter that had a T connection to an adjoining property” when he was asked “Describe the damaged facility”. (Exh. 2.)



**Photo 1**: provided by the Southern California Gas Company, depicts the site of the damage and an area of soil moved by a backhoe. (Exh. 1.)

**Identity of the Excavator**

Government Code section 4216(h) defines an excavator to be "any person, firm, contractor or subcontractor, owner, operator, utility, association, corporation, partnership, business trust, public agency, or other entity that, with their own employees or equipment performs any excavation."

Meram Construction Inc. is currently licensed by the California Contractors State License Board, license number 1066873 with B - General Building classification. (Exh. 3.)

**Meram Construction Inc., Did Not Contact the Regional Notification Center Before Excavating**

Government Code section 4216.2(b) states that an excavator planning to excavate shall notify the appropriate regional notification center of the excavator's intent to excavate at least two working days, and not more than 14 calendar days, before beginning that excavation.

Meram did not notify the regional notification center prior to excavation at 3316 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul, California 91935. Meram stated “prior excavation to the property in 2023/2024 had an 811 dig alert ticket and never were any markings provided near the area the accident occurred.” Meram stated that the reason it did not notify the regional notification center was because “Excavation was contained inside owners property boundaries and not near any streets.” (Exh. 2.)

On March 7, 2025, the investigator emailed Amber Dahl, Safety Awareness Director at Underground Service Alert of Southern California Regional Notification Center, requesting ticket information for 3316 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul, California 91935, from December 23, 2024, to February 3, 2025. (Exh. 6.)

On March 10, 2025, Dahl responded to the search request covering the period of December 23, 2024, through February 3, 2025, and provided ticket B250340678 for 3316 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul, California 91935. (Exh. 7.) The regional notification center created the new ticket B250340678 for Meram Construction on February 3, 2025, at 1:14 p.m., with a legal start date and time of February 5, 2025, at 5:01 p.m., after the damage occurred. The ticket was for grading work at 3326 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul, California, 91935. (Exh. 7.)

**Meram Construction Inc., Did Not Call 911 Emergency Services Upon Gas Release**
Government Code section 4216.4(c)(1) states an excavator shall call 911 emergency services upon discovering or causing damage to a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline subsurface installation in which the damage results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid.

On February 3, 2025, Meram Construction Inc. was digging using a mini-excavator and damaged a 1-inch plastic natural gas installation and did not call 911 afterward. (Exhs. 2, 8.) Meram stated that he contacted SoCalGas and they were the ones that called 911. (Exh. 8.)

**Findings:**

1. Meram Construction Inc. failed to contact the Regional Notification Center before beginning excavation on February 3, 2025, at 3316 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul, California 91935. Irvin stated that the reason he did not notify the regional notification center was because “Excavation was contained inside owners property boundaries and not near any streets.”
2. On February 3, 2025, Meram Construction Inc. failed to call 911 emergency services to report the escaping gas from the subsurface installation after it was damaged by grading excavation.

| Investigator | Supervisor |
|---|---|
| Ousama Alkahwaji | Anona Bonner |
| Signature | Signature |
| /s/ Ousama Alkahwaji | /s/ Anona Bonner |

**Exhibit List:**

| Exhibit No. | Description | Date | Received From |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Incident Report submitted to the Underground Safety Board | Received on 02/07/2025 | Gas Construction Manager, Mark Engel, San Diego Gas and Electric |
| 2. | Board's Investigation Questionnaire received from President, Irvin Meram, Meram Construction Inc. | Received on 03/15/2025 | Irvin Meram, President, Meram Construction Inc. |
| 3. | Contractor's License Detail for License No. 1066873 obtained from the Contractors State License Board website | Downloaded on 03/07/2025 | California Contractors State License Board website at https://www.cslb.ca.gov/onlineservices/checklicensell/checklicense.aspx |
| 4. | Board's Investigation Questionnaire and Investigator's email to Meram Construction Inc. | Emailed on 03/07/2025 | |
| 5. | Board's Investigation Questionnaire and Investigator's follow-up email to Meram Construction Inc. | Emailed on 03/14/2025 | |
| 6. | Investigator's email to Underground Service Alert of Southern California Regional Notification Center requesting ticket information on the underlying job to this incident | Emailed on 03/07/2025 | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7. | Email from Underground Service Alert of Southern California Regional Notification Center stating there was no valid ticket for the underlying job to this incident | Received on 03/10/2025 | Amber Dahl, Safety Awareness Director, Underground Service Alert of Southern California Regional Notification Center |
| 8. | Report of Interview conducted by Investigator Ousama Alkahwaji with President, Irvin Meram, Meram Construction Inc. | Conducted on 03/18/2025 | Irvin Meram, President, President, Meram Construction Inc. |

# Exhibit 1

# No-Ticket Damage Reporting Form

**Submitted: February 7, 2025 1:19 PM**

## Reporter Information

Provide the names, titles, phone numbers, and email addresses of all individuals who are involved in reporting this damage or contributing to the answers to these questions

### Full Name
Mark Engel

### Title
Gas Construction Manager

### Phone Number
442-232-7720

### E-mail address
mengel@sdge.com

---

## Company

Provide the name, address, phone number, email address, and, if applicable, the Regional Notification Center (member code for your company).

### Company Name
San Diego Gas and Electric

Address
571 Enterprise St, Escondido , 92029

Phone Number
442-232-7720

Email Address
mengel@sdge.com

Regional Notification Center member code

## Other Contacts

Is the photographer same as the primary reporter named above?

## Incident Information

What was the date and approximate time of the incident?
February 3, 2025 1:20 PM

What is the address where your facility was damaged on 2/3/2025?

*Damage Street Address*
3316 Indian Mills Ln

*Damage County*
San Diego

*Damage City*

Jamul

*Damage Cross Street 1*

Cottonwood Springs Ln

*Damage Cross Street 2*

*Other Damage location description*

Does San Diego Gas and Electric own, operate or maintain the facility damaged on 2/3/2025?

Yes

What type of excavation did you observe on 2/3/2025 at that address?

Other

Describe the excavation activity you identified.

On-site I spoke to Irvin Meram owner of Meram Construction who stated his crew damaged the 1" poly service line while grading with mechanized equipment.

What excavation companies did you observe on 2/3/2025?

*Company Name*

Meram Construction

*Company Address*

312 Highland Ave  Suite 200, El Cajon , 92020

*Phone Number*

619-219-9997

*Email Address*

IRVIN@meramconstruction.com

*Did this company damage the facility?*

Yes

*Provide the name, title, phone number, and email address for at least one contact for each excavation company working at or near incident address on date of incident. If you have more than one contact, please provide all of them. Email addresses are required for submission of this form.*

Personnel Name

Irvin Meram

Title

Foreman

Phone Number

619-219-9997

Email Address

IRVIN@meramconstruction.com

---

## Notification Details

### Was San Diego Gas and Electric notified of the proposed excavation by the Regional Notification Center before 2/3/2025?

No

### What date and time did you learn of the damage to the facility?

February 3, 2025 1:20 PM

### How did San Diego Gas and Electric learn of the damage to the facility?

Dispatch

## Facility Damaged

### What kind of facility was damaged on 2/3/2025?

Natural Gas

Natural Gas

### What type of material was the damaged facility?

Plastic

Facility diameter (inches)?
1

## Incident Details

What kinds of excavation equipment did you observe at the location of the damaged facility?
Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator

Do you know what equipment damaged the facility?
Yes

What equipment damaged the facility?
Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator

What information are you relying on regarding damage to the facility?
Interview with excavator

Did San Diego Gas and Electric contact the Regional Notification Center before repairing the damaged facility?
No

Provide any other relevant information about the damage on 2/3/2025.
On-site I spoke to Irvin Meram owner of Meram Construction who stated his crew damaged the 1" poly service line while grading with mechanized equipment.

## Damages

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders due to the damage to your facility on 2/3/2025?
No

Was any property damaged other than the damaged facility?
No

Was there a fire caused by this damage on 2/3/2025?
No

Was there an evacuation of any nearby homes or businesses caused by this damage on 2/3/2025?
No

Provide an estimate of the number of your customers whose service was interrupted by this damage on 2/3/2025.
2

## Conclusions

### What date and time were repairs completed to the damaged facility?

February 3, 2025 4:59 PM

### Please explain why you think the facility was damaged on 2/3/2025?

On-site I spoke to Irvin Meram owner of Meram Construction who stated his crew damaged the 1" poly service line while grading with mechanized equipment.

### Is there any other information which you feel is important to share about this incident?

### Not counting your answers to these questions, did San Diego Gas and Electric create an investigatory or incident report pertaining to the damage on 2/3/2025?

No

### Have your answers to these questions and or the documents you are sending today been reviewed, changed or amended by anyone?

No

## Files

### Please attach all Facility Repair Orders.

---

Please attach all Photos.



*Date and time photographed*
February 3, 2025 1:20 PM

*Photographer Name*
${Reporter_Name} ${Reporter_Name2}

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Additional Records

## Reference Number

N250381210

# Exhibit 2

# No-Ticket Damage Reporting Form

**Submitted Time: March 15, 2025 4:53 AM**

## Provide your name, title, phone number, and email address

### Name
Irvin

### Title
Presidenr

### Phone Number
619-219-9997

### Email Address
Irvin@meramconstruction.com

## Please provide the identifying information for Meram Construction in general.

### California Contractor's State License Board (CSLB) license
1066873

### Physical Address
312 highland ave, suite 200, El Cajon CA 92020

### Mailing Address
312 highland ave, suite 200, El Cajon CA 92020

Phone Number
619-219-9997

Email Address
Irvin@meramconstruction.com

Did Meram Construction damage the NaturalGas facility while excavating at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on the 2/3/2025? (Select One)
Yes

Were there any other companies at or near 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? (Select One)
No

Did someone in Meram Construction, or anyone else, contact the Regional Notification Center on 2/3/2025?
No

Did San Diego Gas and Electric respond after the Regional Notification Center created the 811 ticket?

Is Meram Construction aware that it needed to contact the Regional Notification Center prior to excavating?
No

Did the Regional Notification Center create an 811-ticket for 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul that Meram Construction worked?
No

If no one at Meram Construction, or anyone else, contacted the Regional Notification Center before excavating, why not?
Other

Explain why Meram Construction did not obtain an 811 ticket?
Excavation was contained inside owners property boundaries and not near any streets

Has Meram Construction ever obtained an 811 ticket, either by calling 811 or using the Regional Notification Center's website?
Yes

The damage notification indicated that a facility was damaged at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025. Is that correct?
Yes

Was Meram Construction the prime contractor on the project at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025?
Yes

What was mentioned or what direction did the prime contractor provide to you?

Provide the names, phone numbers, and if applicable, their email address for all your personnel who were at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul when the facility was damaged.
Name
Gerardo Cruz

Title
Foreman

Phone Number
619-327-3376

Email Address
Admin@meramconstruction.com

Add an additional individual?
No

Which one of the individuals you identified was the foreman on the project when the facility was damaged?
Gerardo Cruz

## Facility Damage

Was a facility damaged on 2/3/2025?
Yes

Describe the damaged facility.
Gas line away from gas meter that had a T connection to an adjoining property.

Identify the type of material damaged.
1/2” Poly gas line

Explain how the facility was damaged?
Foreman was excavating in an area away from the gas meter up against a retaining wall. Work was being done to stabilize a retaining wall that had structural failure.  Gas line was not underground and went thru the side of retaining wall.

What equipment did Meram Construction use on 2/3/2025? (Select All That Are Applicable)
Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator

What type of equipment damaged the facility?
Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator

Who was operating the equipment that damaged the facility on 2/3/2025?
Gerardo Cruz

Does Meram Construction own that equipment?
Yes

## Emergency Response

How did Meram Construction learn that the San Diego Gas and Electric facility was damaged on 2/3/2025?
Gas leak from tiny puncture in poly line

Did anyone with Meram Construction call 911 on 2/3/2025 after the damage had occurred?
Yes

Was there an emergency response to the incident from the fire department, a law enforcement department, or an ambulance on 2/3/2025?
Yes

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders on 2/3/2025?
No

Were there any fatalities on 2/3/2025 or afterwards, due to the damage at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul?
No

Was there property damage on 2/3/2025, excluding the facility damage?
No

Was there a fire on 2/3/2025 as a result of the damage to the facility?
No

Was there an evacuation of any homes or businesses on 2/3/2025 as a result of the damage to the facility?
No

Are you aware of anyone else that called 911?
No

Did anyone at Meram Construction contact the Regional Notification Center after the damage on  2/3/2025?

No

Did anyone at Meram Construction contact San Diego Gas and Electric after the damage?

Yes

Who at Meram Construction contacted the San Diego Gas and Electric?

Irvin Meram

What is the name of the person at the San Diego Gas and Electric contacted by the individual you identified above?

Do not remember

What steps, if any, have Meram Construction taken to prevent a similar damage in the future?

Company briefing to all employees to call 811 even in the event of work being done in private property where 811 does not provide mark outs.

Is there any other information you want to share about this damage?

Prior excavation to the property in 2023/2024 had an 811 dig alert ticket and never were any markings provided near the area accident occurred

# Exhibit 3

CONTRACTORS STATE LICENSE BOARD

# Contractor's License Detail for License # 1066873

**DISCLAIMER: A license status check provides information taken from the CSLB license database. Before relying on this information, you should be aware of the following limitations.**

- CSLB complaint disclosure is restricted by law (B&P 7124.6) If this entity is subject to public complaint disclosure click on link that will appear below for more information. Click here for a definition of disclosable actions.
- Only construction related civil judgments reported to CSLB are disclosed (B&P 7071.17).
- Arbitrations are not listed unless the contractor fails to comply with the terms.
- Due to workload, there may be relevant information that has not yet been entered into the board's license database.

Data current as of 3/7/2025 3:26:13 PM

## Business Information

MERAM CONSTRUCTION INC
312 HIGHLAND AVE SUITE 200
EL CAJON, CA 92020
Business Phone Number:(619) 609-7599

**Entity** Corporation
**Issue Date** 07/10/2020
**Expire Date** **07/31/2026**

## License Status

**This license is current and active.**

**All information below should be reviewed.**

## Classifications

B - GENERAL BUILDING

## Bonding Information

**Contractor's Bond**

This license filed a Contractor's Bond with HUDSON INSURANCE COMPANY.
**Bond Number:** 30122170
**Bond Amount:** $25,000
**Effective Date:** 06/19/2023
Contractor's Bond History

**Bond of Qualifying Individual**

The qualifying individual IRVIN HIKMAT MERAM certified that he/she owns 10 percent or more of the voting stock/membership interest of this company; therefore, the Bond of Qualifying Individual is not required.
**Effective Date:** 07/10/2020

This license has workers compensation insurance with the PALOMAR SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

**Policy Number:**PSIC0701429401
**Effective Date:** 05/06/2024
**Expire Date:** 05/06/2025
Workers' Compensation History

**Workers' compensation classification code(s):**
62201 **-** Excavation**-**high wage
52052 **-** Concrete/Cement Work**-**high wage

For a description of the workers' compensation classification code(s) listed for this licensee, contact the licensee's insurance carrier. Contact information for the licensee's insurer is available by clicking the insurer link above. Classification codes are also available on the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau's classification search page.

**The board does not verify or investigate the accuracy of classification codes displayed.**



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# Exhibit 4

**From:** Alkahwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov
**To:** irvin@meramconstruction.com
**Cc:** Alcantar, Daysi@EnergySafety
**Subject:** Underground Safety Board – No-811 Investigation Case No. N250381210
**Date:** Monday, March 10, 2025 9:16:00 AM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Dear Meram Construction,

**Response Due Date: March 14, 2025**

The Underground Safety Board (Board) has been notified about damage to a facility, potentially involving Meram Construction. You have the option to respond to the following questions below using this interactive form or through a scheduled telephone interview.

Answer the questions on the interactive form by clicking HERE.

All questions must be answered to submit this form. Alternatively, you can contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a phone interview to answer these questions.

Should you encounter any difficulties with the questions or prefer a telephone interview, contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a time to discuss. I have been assigned with following up on notification reporting that Meram Construction damaged the facility on 02/03/2025 by excavating without first contacting the Regional Notification Center. The damage occurred at or near 3316 Indian Mills Lane Jamul, CA 91935.

The purpose of this report is to gather all the pertinent facts. The questions below, tailored for Meram Construction, may serve to replace a formal interview. Respond to each question. The Board investigates excavation incidents to identify potential safety violations, and employ this data to enhance accident prevention, safeguard worker welfare, and protect people and property.

Furthermore, this information will aid in determining if any enforcement measures are warranted. In such a scenario, Meram Construction will initially receive a Notice of Possible Violation (NOPV) following this investigation. NOPVs will be reviewed during public meetings of the Board to determine whether any violations of Government Code section 4216 et seq. have occurred. Should Meram Construction receive an NOPV, you will be notified of your response options and of the date of your hearing.

To answer these questions, you will need to gather information where applicable regarding excavation activities on the site, company and personnel contact information, the 811 ticket number and response information from the utility companies, emergency response actions, and prime contractor contact information.

Send with your answers to the questions, all the documents listed below that you possess, in their original format, which are associated with this damage by date indicated in email. "Documents" includes photographs, 811 ticket(s), written communications, incident reports, emails, texts, videos, or other related items.

Any documents the Board receives after response due date may not make it into the case file, resulting in them not being a part of the determination of your possible violation.

Thank you,

**Ousama Alkahwaji**
Investigator
Underground Infrastructure Directorate
Phone: (279) 245-1157
www.energysafety.ca.gov
OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY

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Reset

# No-811 Excavator Intake Questions

The Underground Safety Board (Board) has been notified about damage to a facility, potentially involving Meram Construction. You have the option to respond to the following questions below using this interactive form or through a scheduled telephone interview.

Should you encounter any difficulties with the questions or prefer a telephone interview, contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a time to discuss. I have been assigned with following up on notification reporting that Meram Construction damaged the facility on 2/3/2025 by excavating without first contacting the Regional Notification Center. The damage occurred at or near 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul.

The purpose of this report is to gather all the pertinent facts. The questions below, tailored for Meram Construction, may serve to replace a formal interview. Respond to each question. The Board investigates excavation incidents to identify potential safety violations, and employ this data to enhance accident prevention, safeguard worker welfare, and protect people and property.

Furthermore, this information will aid in determining if any enforcement measures are warranted. In such a scenario, Meram Construction will initially receive a Notice of Possible Violation (NOPV) following this investigation. NOPVs will be reviewed during public meetings of the Board to determine whether any violations of Government Code section 4216 et seq. have occurred. Should Meram Construction receive an

your hearing.

To answer these questions you will need to gather information where applicable regarding excavation activities on the site, company and personnel contact information, the 811 ticket number and response information from the utility companies, emergency response actions, and prime contractor contact information.

Send with your answers to the questions, all the documents listed below that you possess, in their original format, which are associated with this damage by date indicated in email. "Documents" includes photographs, 811 ticket(s), written communications, incident reports, emails, texts, videos, or other related items.

Any documents the Board receives after response due date may not make it into the case file, resulting in them not being a part of the determination of your possible violation.

## Files (1)

Along with answers to the questions below, attatch the following documents here:

· A copy of any damage reports already created as part of your regular procedures,

· A copy of all 811 ticket(s) covering the damage area,

· A copy of your job contracts covering the damage area,

· A copy of your contract for any rental equipment used on date of incident,if applicable,

· Copies of all photo(s) of the jobsite and the damage,

· A copy of your written policies and procedures regarding contacting the Regional Notification Center, emergency procedures, and use of excavation equipment.

Select (+) to add additional documents as needed.

Drop file here or select file

All questions must be answered to submit this form. Alternatively, you can contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a phone interview to answer these questions.

## Provide your name, title, phone number, and email address

First Name*

Last Name*

Title*

Phone Number*

- -

Email Address*

## Please provide the identifying information for Meram Construction in general.

California Contractor's State License Board (CSLB) license*

Physical Address*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

- -

Email Address*

Did Meram Construction damage the NaturalGas facility while excavating at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on the 2/3/2025? (Select One) *

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

If you answered "No", can you explain who damaged the facility.*

## Please provide the contact information for the company that damaged the facility.

### Company Name*

### Physical Address*

### Mailing Address*

### Phone Number*

- -

### Email Address*

### At what time did the damage happen at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? *

hh:mm

Was Meram Construction at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul when the facility was damaged? (Select One) *

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

To the best of your knowledge, did Meram Construction ever perform work at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul, the location where the facility was damaged? (Select One) *

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Were there any other companies at or near 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? (Select One) *

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

**For each other company present provide the company name, address (physical or mailing), phone number, and email address.**

Company Name*

Phone Number

- -

**Email Address***

**Add an additional company present?***

- Yes
- No

**Did someone in Meram Construction, or anyone else, contact the Regional Notification Center 2/3/2025? ***

- Yes
- No

**The damage notification indicated that a facility was damaged at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025. Is that correct? ***

- Yes
- No

Was Meram Construction the prime contractor on the project at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

## Provide the names, phone numbers, and if applicable, their email address for all your personnel who were at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul when the facility was damaged.

**Name***

**Title***

**Phone Number***

- -

**Email Address***

**Add an additional individual?***

- Yes

No

**Which one of the individuals you identified was the foreman on the project when the facility was damaged?***

## Facility Damage

**Was a facility damaged on 2/3/2025? ***

- Yes
- (•) No

**Describe the damaged facility.***

**Identify the type of material damaged.***

**Explain how the facility was damaged?***

**What equipment did Meram Construction use on 2/3/2025? (Select All That Are Applicable) ***

- [ ] Auger/vertical bore
- [ ] Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator
- [ ] Bulldozer/front loader
- [ ] Horizontal drilling or boring equipment
- [ ] Farm equipment
- [ ] Shovel
- [ ] Pick
- [ ] Other hand tools
- [ ] Trencher
- [ ] Air/water knife
- [ ] Clay spade
- [ ] Jackhammer (90+ pound hammer)
- [ ] Powered hammer drill

- [ ] Powered hand-held other
- [ ] Explosives
- [ ] Surface milling equipment
- [ ] Grading equipment
- [ ] Saw cutting
- [ ] Other

**What type of equipment damaged the facility?***

**Who was operating the equipment that damaged the facility on 2/3/2025? ***

**Does Meram Construction own that equipment? ***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

## Emergency Response

How did Meram Construction learn that the San Diego Gas and Electric facility was damaged on 2/3/2025? *

Did anyone with Meram Construction call 911 on 2/3/2025 after the damage had occurred? *

- Yes
- No

Was there an emergency response to the incident from the fire department, a law enforcement department, or an ambulance on 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders on 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

Were there any fatalities on 2/3/2025 or afterwards, due to the damage at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul? *

- [ ] No

**Was there property damage on 2/3/2025, excluding the facility damage? ***

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**Was there a fire on 2/3/2025 as a result of the damage to the facility? ***

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**Was there an evacuation of any homes or businesses on 2/3/2025 as a result of the damage to the facility? ***

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**Are you aware of anyone else that called 911?***

- [ ] Yes

**Did anyone at Meram Construction contact the Regional Notification Center after the damage on 2/3/2025 ? ***

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**Did anyone at Meram Construction contact San Diego Gas and Electric after the damage? ***

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**What steps, if any, have Meram Construction taken to prevent a similar damage in the future? ***

**Is there any other information you want to share about this damage?***

Submit

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# Exhibit 5

**From:** Alkahwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov
**To:** irvin@meramconstruction.com
**Cc:** Alcantar, Daysi@EnergySafety
**Subject:** Underground Safety Board – No-811 Investigation Case No. N250381210
**Date:** Monday, March 10, 2025 9:16:00 AM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Dear Meram Construction,

**Response Due Date: March 14, 2025**

The Underground Safety Board (Board) has been notified about damage to a facility, potentially involving Meram Construction. You have the option to respond to the following questions below using this interactive form or through a scheduled telephone interview.

Answer the questions on the interactive form by clicking HERE.

All questions must be answered to submit this form. Alternatively, you can contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a phone interview to answer these questions.

Should you encounter any difficulties with the questions or prefer a telephone interview, contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a time to discuss. I have been assigned with following up on notification reporting that Meram Construction damaged the facility on 02/03/2025 by excavating without first contacting the Regional Notification Center. The damage occurred at or near 3316 Indian Mills Lane Jamul, CA 91935.

The purpose of this report is to gather all the pertinent facts. The questions below, tailored for Meram Construction, may serve to replace a formal interview. Respond to each question. The Board investigates excavation incidents to identify potential safety violations, and employ this data to enhance accident prevention, safeguard worker welfare, and protect people and property.

Furthermore, this information will aid in determining if any enforcement measures are warranted. In such a scenario, Meram Construction will initially receive a Notice of Possible Violation (NOPV) following this investigation. NOPVs will be reviewed during public meetings of the Board to determine whether any violations of Government Code section 4216 et seq. have occurred. Should Meram Construction receive an NOPV, you will be notified of your response options and of the date of your hearing.

To answer these questions, you will need to gather information where applicable regarding excavation activities on the site, company and personnel contact information, the 811 ticket number and response information from the utility companies, emergency response actions, and prime contractor contact information.

Send with your answers to the questions, all the documents listed below that you possess, in their original format, which are associated with this damage by date indicated in email. "Documents" includes photographs, 811 ticket(s), written communications, incident reports, emails, texts, videos, or other related items.

Any documents the Board receives after response due date may not make it into the case file, resulting in them not being a part of the determination of your possible violation.

Thank you,

**Ousama Alkahwaji**
Investigator
Underground Infrastructure Directorate
Phone: (279) 245-1157
www.energysafety.ca.gov
OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY

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Reset

# No-811 Excavator Intake Questions

The Underground Safety Board (Board) has been notified about damage to a facility, potentially involving Meram Construction. You have the option to respond to the following questions below using this interactive form or through a scheduled telephone interview.

Should you encounter any difficulties with the questions or prefer a telephone interview, contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a time to discuss. I have been assigned with following up on notification reporting that Meram Construction damaged the facility on 2/3/2025 by excavating without first contacting the Regional Notification Center. The damage occurred at or near 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul.

The purpose of this report is to gather all the pertinent facts. The questions below, tailored for Meram Construction, may serve to replace a formal interview. Respond to each question. The Board investigates excavation incidents to identify potential safety violations, and employ this data to enhance accident prevention, safeguard worker welfare, and protect people and property.

Furthermore, this information will aid in determining if any enforcement measures are warranted. In such a scenario, Meram Construction will initially receive a Notice of Possible Violation (NOPV) following this investigation. NOPVs will be reviewed during public meetings of the Board to determine whether any violations of Government Code section 4216 et seq. have occurred. Should Meram Construction receive an

your hearing.

To answer these questions you will need to gather information where applicable regarding excavation activities on the site, company and personnel contact information, the 811 ticket number and response information from the utility companies, emergency response actions, and prime contractor contact information.

Send with your answers to the questions, all the documents listed below that you possess, in their original format, which are associated with this damage by date indicated in email. "Documents" includes photographs, 811 ticket(s), written communications, incident reports, emails, texts, videos, or other related items.

Any documents the Board receives after response due date may not make it into the case file, resulting in them not being a part of the determination of your possible violation.

## Files (1)

Along with answers to the questions below, attatch the following documents here:

· A copy of any damage reports already created as part of your regular procedures,

· A copy of all 811 ticket(s) covering the damage area,

· A copy of your job contracts covering the damage area,

· A copy of your contract for any rental equipment used on date of incident,if applicable,

· Copies of all photo(s) of the jobsite and the damage,

· A copy of your written policies and procedures regarding contacting the Regional Notification Center, emergency procedures, and use of excavation equipment.

Select (+) to add additional documents as needed.

Drop file here or select file

All questions must be answered to submit this form. Alternatively, you can contact the investigator within the next two business days to schedule a phone interview to answer these questions.

## Provide your name, title, phone number, and email address

First Name*

Last Name*

Title*

Phone Number*

- -

Email Address*

## Please provide the identifying information for Meram Construction in general.

California Contractor's State License Board (CSLB) license*

**Physical Address***

**Mailing Address***

**Phone Number***

- -

**Email Address***

**Did Meram Construction damage the NaturalGas facility while excavating at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on the 2/3/2025? (Select One) ***

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

**If you answered "No", can you explain who damaged the facility.***

## Please provide the contact information for the company that damaged the facility.

**Company Name***

**Physical Address***

**Mailing Address***

**Phone Number***

- -

**Email Address***

**At what time did the damage happen at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? ***

hh:mm

Was Meram Construction at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul when the facility was damaged? (Select One) *

- ○ Yes
- ◉ No

To the best of your knowledge, did Meram Construction ever perform work at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul, the location where the facility was damaged? (Select One) *

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Were there any other companies at or near 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? (Select One) *

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

## For each other company present provide the company name, address (physical or mailing), phone number, and email address.

Company Name*

Phone Number

- -

Email Address*

Add an additional company present?*

- Yes
- No

Did someone in Meram Construction, or anyone else, contact the Regional Notification Center 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

The damage notification indicated that a facility was damaged at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025. Is that correct? *

- Yes
- No

Was Meram Construction the prime contractor on the project at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul on 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

## Provide the names, phone numbers, and if applicable, their email address for all your personnel who were at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul when the facility was damaged.

**Name***

**Title***

**Phone Number***

- -

**Email Address***

**Add an additional individual?***

- Yes

No

**Which one of the individuals you identified was the foreman on the project when the facility was damaged?***

## Facility Damage

**Was a facility damaged on 2/3/2025? ***

- Yes
- (•) No

**Describe the damaged facility.***

**Identify the type of material damaged.***

**Explain how the facility was damaged?***

**What equipment did Meram Construction use on 2/3/2025? (Select All That Are Applicable) ***

- [ ] Auger/vertical bore
- [ ] Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator
- [ ] Bulldozer/front loader
- [ ] Horizontal drilling or boring equipment
- [ ] Farm equipment
- [ ] Shovel
- [ ] Pick
- [ ] Other hand tools
- [ ] Trencher
- [ ] Air/water knife
- [ ] Clay spade
- [ ] Jackhammer (90+ pound hammer)
- [ ] Powered hammer drill

- [ ] Powered hand-held other
- [ ] Explosives
- [ ] Surface milling equipment
- [ ] Grading equipment
- [ ] Saw cutting
- [ ] Other

**What type of equipment damaged the facility?***

**Who was operating the equipment that damaged the facility on 2/3/2025? ***

**Does Meram Construction own that equipment? ***

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

## Emergency Response

How did Meram Construction learn that the San Diego Gas and Electric facility was damaged on 2/3/2025? *

Did anyone with Meram Construction call 911 on 2/3/2025 after the damage had occurred? *

- Yes
- No

Was there an emergency response to the incident from the fire department, a law enforcement department, or an ambulance on 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders on 2/3/2025? *

- Yes
- No

Were there any fatalities on 2/3/2025 or afterwards, due to the damage at 3316 Indian Mills Ln, Jamul? *

- [ ] No

**Was there property damage on 2/3/2025, excluding the facility damage? ***

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**Was there a fire on 2/3/2025 as a result of the damage to the facility? ***

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**Was there an evacuation of any homes or businesses on 2/3/2025 as a result of the damage to the facility? ***

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

**Are you aware of anyone else that called 911?***

- [ ] Yes

**Did anyone at Meram Construction contact the Regional Notification Center after the damage on 2/3/2025 ? ***

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**Did anyone at Meram Construction contact San Diego Gas and Electric after the damage? ***

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**What steps, if any, have Meram Construction taken to prevent a similar damage in the future? ***

**Is there any other information you want to share about this damage?***

Submit

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# Exhibit 6

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Alkahwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov |
| **To:** | Amber Dahl |
| **Cc:** | Alcantar, Daysi@EnergySafety |
| **Subject:** | 811 Ticket Request for N250381210 |
| **Date:** | Friday, March 7, 2025 2:09:00 PM |
| **Attachments:** | image001.png |

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Hi Amber,

Please provide a copy of all tickets, revisions at about 3316 Indian Mills Lane, Jamul CA 91935 for December 23, 2024 to February 03, 2025.

If there is not a ticket at this address for this date, confirm that finding.

Thank you,

**Ousama Alkahwaji**
Investigator
Underground Infrastructure Directorate
Phone: (279) 245-1157
www.energysafety.ca.gov
OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY

*Stay connected and informed by signing up for the Underground Safety Board's subscriber list.*

# Exhibit 7

## Alkahwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov

**From:** Amber Dahl <amber@digalert.org>
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2025 01:44 PM
**To:** Alkahwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov
**Cc:** Alcantar, Daysi@EnergySafety
**Subject:** File N250381210
**Attachments:** N250381210.pdf

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Thank you,

**Amber Dahl**, Safety Director
Underground Service Alert of Southern California
PO BOX 77070 Corona, CA 92877
P: 951-808-8115 F: 951-808-8101
E: amber@digalert.org W: www.digalert.org

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# Underground Service Alert

of Southern California™

March 10, 2025

Ousama Alkahwaji
Underground Safety Board

**File Number: N250381210**

Dear Ousama,

After searching our records from 12/23/24 through 2/3/25, we found the following DigAlert ticket(s) B250340678 for the location at or near 3316 Indian Mills Ln in Jamul. I hope this information will be helpful.

If we can be of further assistance, please call us at 951-808-8100.

Sincerely,

Amber Dahl
Safety Awareness Director

MBRCOD 00001B USAS 03/07/25 14:46:59 B250340678-00B NEW NORM POLY LREQ

Ticket: B250340678 Rev: 00B Created: 02/03/25 13:14 User: DIRECT Chan: WEB

Work Start: 02/05/25 17:01 Legal Start: 02/05/25 17:01 Expires: 03/03/25 23:59
Response required: Y Priority: 2

Excavator Information
Company: MERAM CONSTRUCTION Type: CONT
Co Addr: 312 HIGHLAND AVE SUITE 200
City : ELCAJON State: CA Zip: 92020
Created By: IRVIN MERAM Language: ENGLISH
Office Phone: 619-219-9997 SMS/Cell: 619-219-9997
Office Email: IRVIN@MERAMCONSTRUCTION.COM

Site Contact: IRVIN MERAM
Site Phone: 619-219-9997 Site SMS/Cell: 619-219-9997
Site Email: irvin@meramconstruction.com

Excavation Area
State: CA County: SAN DIEGO Place: JAMUL
Zip: 91935
Address : 3326 Street: INDIAN MILLS LN
Cross 1 : COTTONWOOD SPRINGS LN
Cross 2 :
Location:
Searchable Tags:
Job size: sq-feet: 155950 sq-miles: 0.005594

Delineated Method: WHITEPAINT
Work Type: GRADING
Work For : HOMEOWNER
Permit: Job/Work order: INDIAN MILLS
Project ID:
Project Name:
1 Year: N Boring: N Street/Sidewalk: N Vacuum: N Explosives: N Pavement Only: Y

Lat/Long
Center Generated (NAD83): 32.741534/-116.905951 32.741607/-116.904598
: 32.740270/-116.905883 32.740343/-116.904530
Excavator Provided:

Map link:
https://newtin.digalert.org/newtinweb/map_tkt.nap?TRG=43MeOYQYLdLdCcM-R

Members:
ATTDSOUTH COSDSD COSDTS COX01 OTAYSWR OTAYWTR SDG01

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**Ticket Responses for: B250340678-00B**

| Member | Name | Rev | Responded | By | Response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ATTDSOUTH | AT&T - DISTRIBUTION | 00B | 02/04/25 07:47:02 AM | UQ Responder | (010) LOCATE AREA MARKED |
| COSDSD | SAN DIEGO CO DPW, SPECIAL DISTRICTS | 00B | 02/03/25 01:26:44 PM | MICHAEL KROSKY | (001) CLEAR - NO CONFLICT |
| COSDTS | SAN DIEGO CO DPW, TRAFFIC SECTION | 00B | 02/03/25 01:26:44 PM | MICHAEL KROSKY | (001) CLEAR - NO CONFLICT |
| COX01 | COX COMMUNICATIONS - SO SD | 00B | 02/04/25 07:48:21 AM | Urbint-UtiliQues | (010) LOCATE AREA MARKED |
| OTAYSWR | OTAY WATER DIST | 00B | 02/04/25 03:32:59 PM | MIBARRA | (001) CLEAR - NO CONFLICT |

| Member | Name | Rev | Responded | By | Response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OTAYWTR | OTAY WATER DIST | 00B | 02/04/25 03:33:00 PM | MIBARRA | (010) LOCATE AREA MARKED |
| SDG01 | SDG&E GAS DISTRIBUTION AND ELECTRIC | 00B | 02/05/25 09:48:47 AM | VMARTINE | (003) EXISTING MARKINGS ADEQUATE |

# Exhibit 8

**CALIFORNIA UNDERGROUND SAFETY BOARD**
**INVESTIGATION DIVISION**
**INTERVIEW REPORT**

**REPORT DATE**: March 18, 2025

**CASE NO**: N250381210

**DATE AND TIME OF INTERVIEW**: March 18, 2025, at 03:55pm

**LOCATION OF INTERVIEW**: Phone (619) 219-9997

**INTERVIEWER:** Ousama Alkahwaji

**NAME, TITLE, AND COMPANY OF INTERVIEWEE**: Irvin Meram, President, Meram Construction

**INTERVIEW:**

Investigator contacted Irvin Meram by phone and thanked him for responding to the questionnaire on March 15, 2025. During the conversation, Investigator asked Meram to confirm whether he had contacted 911. Meram stated that he had called the gas company, and they were the ones who contacted 911.

Investigator also asked Meram to confirm the used equipment (backhoe/trackhoe/excavator), Meram said that it was a Mini Excavator.