



# Virtual Public Workshop on Safety Standards: Potholing Notice and Agenda August 7 and 11, 2023

The Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) Underground Safety Board (Board) will hold a virtual public workshop on August 7 and continued on August 11 to discuss safety standards for potholing. These workshops will be an opportunity for stakeholders to identify how the draft standards can be modified to improve job efficiency and worker safety.

Safety is the consequence of everyone achieving excellence in doing their work.

Members of the public, stakeholders, and local and regional agencies, boards, tribes, and commissions are invited to participate in the discussion and public comment. Energy Safety is also accepting written public comments prior to the public meeting.

The draft standards may be found in the [workshop docket](#).

**August 7 | 2 p.m.**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

## **AUGUST 7 AGENDA**

### **1. Welcome and Agenda Overview**

### **2. Information Item: What is Driving these Safety Standards?**

Staff will present the context for reviewing the draft standards.

### **3. Information Item: Safety Standards Workshop**

The Board's Potholing Committee seeks input on the draft potholing standards.



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- a) Discussion on what information locators need to achieve excellence in locating.
  - i. Standard 3.1 Relevant Information Provided to Locators
  - ii. Standard 3.3 Use of Surface Indicators to Confirm Instrument Readings
  - iii. Standard 3.4 Operator Troubleshooting Contact Available to Locators
  - iv. Standard 4.2 Traffic Control Information for Locators on Ticket
  - v. What is still missing?
  - vi. Any other relevant standards and references?
  
- b) Discussion on what information excavators need to avoid unsafe contact with buried facilities.
  - i. Standard 3.2 Information Sharing With Excavators Outside of Uniform Color Code and Marking Guidelines
  - ii. Standard 4.1 Existing Facility Verification Conducted Prior to and Separate from Construction for Designed Projects
  - iii. Standard 5.1 Information Kept Onsite
  - iv. Standard 5.2 Confirmation of Marks Using Utility Operator Responses and Surface Indicators
  - v. What is still missing?
  - vi. Any other relevant standards and references?
  
- c) Discussion on what information locators and excavators should record.
  - i. Standard 3.5 Operator Process for Identifying and Correcting Mapping Errors
  - ii. Standard 3.6 Utility Operator Locate and Mark Documentation
  - iii. Standard 4.3 Documentation of Delineation
  - iv. Standard 5.2 Confirmation of Marks Using Utility Operator Responses and Surface Indicators
  - v. Standard 5.4 Documenting Utility Operator Marks and the Results of Potholing
  - vi. What is still missing?
  - vii. Any other relevant standards and references?
  
- d) Discussion on how excavators should pothole buried facilities that cross the excavation.
  - i. Standard 5.3 Identification of Potholing Locations





- ii. Standard 5.6 Identification and Protection of Sewer Laterals
  - iii. What is still missing?
  - iv. Any other relevant standards and references?
- e) Discussion on how excavators should pothole buried facilities that run parallel to the excavation.
- i. Standard 5.3 Identification of Potholing Locations
  - ii. What is still missing?
  - iii. Any other relevant standards and references?
- f) Discussion on which standards may be appropriate to merit regulations.

#### **4. Adjournment**

Items scheduled for August 7 may be heard on August 11 to facilitate the safety standards discussion.

**August 11 | 10:30 a.m.**

#### **AGENDA**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

#### **1. Welcome**

#### **2. Information Item: Safety Standards Workshop**

The Board's Potholing Committee seeks input on the draft potholing standards.

- a. Continuation from August 7 Safety Standards Workshop: The workshop will begin with addressing any topics unaddressed during the August 7 Safety Standards Workshop
- b. Discussion on who should provide the excavator with the needed information.
  - i. Standard 3.2 Information Sharing with Excavators Outside of Uniform Color Code and Marking Guidelines
  - ii. Standard 4.1 Existing Facility Verification Conducted Prior to and Separate from Construction for Designed Projects
  - iii. Standard 4.2 Traffic Control Information for Locators on Ticket



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- iv. Standard 5.1 Information Kept Onsite
  - v. Standard 5.3 Identification of Potholing Locations
  - vi. Standard 5.5 Deeply Buried Facilities – Exceptions to Positive Confirmation Based on Data Quality C Information
  - vii. What is missing?
  - viii. Any other relevant standards and references?
- c. Discussion on where depth information should come from and under what circumstances should it be provided by the operator.
- i. Standard 3.2 Information Sharing with Excavators Outside of Uniform Color Code and Marking Guidelines
  - ii. Standard 3.3 Use of Surface Indicators to Confirm Instrument Readings
  - iii. Standard 5.5 Deeply Buried Facilities – Exceptions to Positive Confirmation Based on Data Quality C Information
  - iv. What is missing?
  - v. Any other relevant standards and references?
- d. Discussion on excavator delineation for point excavations (signs, poles, etc.)
- i. Standard 4.4 Delineation for Point Excavations
  - ii. What is missing?
  - iii. Any other relevant standards and references
- e. Discussion on which standards may be appropriate to merit regulations.

### 3. Adjournment

#### Remote Attendance

This workshop meeting is being held remotely. **There is no physical location for public attendance of this meeting. All access to this meeting is remote.**

Zoom is Energy Safety’s online meeting service.

To join the **August 7** 2 p.m. workshop meeting via Zoom, please click:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)



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To join the **August 11** 10:30 a.m. workshop meeting via Zoom, please click:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

To join by telephone dial:

(877) 336-1831 or (404) 443-6397

Conference code: 167251

When attending remotely, presentations will appear on your computer/laptop/mobile device screen and audio may be heard via the device or telephone. Please be aware that the Zoom meeting may be recorded. If you have concerns that you may be unable to use Zoom, use this [link](#) to verify your device's compatibility with Zoom.

#### Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at Energy Safety E-Filing, Docket Name [2023-08-07 and 11 Workshop on Safety Standards: Potholing](#). This notice and instruction on how to join the meeting will also be posted on [Energy Safety's Upcoming Events page](#).

#### Contact Information

Those requiring further information regarding this public workshop meeting may contact us at [digboard@energysafety.ca.gov](mailto:digboard@energysafety.ca.gov), (916) 902-6000, or at the address below:

Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

Attn: Underground Safety Board

715 P Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

This public meeting notice is also available in electronic format on the [meeting page](#) of Energy Safety's website.



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### Accessibility Accommodation

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals who, because of a disability, need special assistance to attend or participate in an Energy Safety public meeting may request assistance by email, phone, or mail using contact information above. Providing your request at least five (5) business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation. For more information about the accessibility features of Zoom visit the platform's [accessibility page](#).



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