



**CALIFORNIA UNDERGROUND SAFETY BOARD
INVESTIGATION DIVISION**

INVESTIGATION REPORT

Date: March 21, 2025

Case No.: N242980054

Violations:

RB Plumbing

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 contact 911 emergency services upon discovering or causing damage to subsurface installation resulting in the escape of flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid.

Executive Summary:

On September 25, 2024, while digging with a shovel to repair water service, RB Plumbing damaged a 0.5-inch plastic natural gas line. RB Plumbing did not contact the regional notification center before digging, and did not RB Plumbing did not contact 911 emergency services to report the damage to the gas line.

Reporting Party Information:

Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90013

Date of Incident:

September 25, 2024

Location of the Incident:

26559 Blackfoot Trail
Rimforest, California 92378

Operator:

Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90013

Excavator:

RB Plumbing
26484 Apache Trail
Rimforest, California 92391

Facility Type Damaged:

0.5-inch plastic natural gas pipeline

Investigation:**Notification of the Incident**

On October 24, 2024, Southern California Gas Company submitted a notification of an incident to the California Underground Safety Board. The notification stated, RB Plumbing performed “excavation with a shovel with no USA while doing water service repair” and a 0.5-inch plastic natural gas pipeline was damaged. (Exh. 1.)

The case was assigned to Investigator Ousama Alkahwaji (Investigator).

RB Plumbing Answered the Investigator’s Questions Twice

On November 6, 2024, Investigator emailed RB Plumbing a link to interview questions related to the incident damage on September 25, 2024. (Exh. 5.) Richard Miller, owner of RB Plumbing, answered the questions twice. Miller responded to the questions on November 6, 2024, at 3:57 p.m. (Exh. 2), and on November 7, 2024, at 2:13 p.m. (Exh. 3.) Miller did not explain why he responded twice.

Excavation and Identity of the Excavator

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.

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.”

RB Plumbing was installing a water service line at 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, California 92378 on September 25, 2024, when Miller hit the natural gas pipeline with a shovel. Miller stated he had exposed the line with a shovel and that while clearing dirt from around the line, the shovel “glanced off a rock and cut the gas line.” (Exhs. 2, 3.)

RB Plumbing is licensed by the California Contractors State License Board, as of November 12, 2024, holding license number 432191 with a C36 - Plumbing classification. (Exh. 4.)

RB Plumbing Did Not Contact the Regional Notification Center Before Digging and Damaging the Gas Line

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.

RB Plumbing did not notify the Regional Notification Center before digging at 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, California 92378. Miller stated during his telephone interview with Investigator on November 12, 2024, the reason he did not contact the Regional Notification Center before excavating was because he already knew where the gas line was. Millier also stated he was retiring at the end of this year (at the age of 70) and will no longer be doing trenching of any kind. (Exh. 2,3,6.)

On November 6, 2024, Investigator emailed Amber Dahl, Safety Awareness Director at the Underground Service Alert of Southern California (DigAlert), requesting ticket information for 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, California 92378, from August 14, 2024, to September 25, 2024. (Exh. 7.)

Safety Awareness Director Amber Dahl responded by email on November 7, 2024, confirming that a ticket did not exist for 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, California 92378, from August 14, 2024, through September 25, 2024. (Exh. 8.)

RB Plumbing Did Not Contact 911 Emergency Services Upon a 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.

Miller stated that he did not contact 911 after damaging the gas line. (Exhs. 2, 3.) Miller stated that he did not contact 911. Miller went to a Southern California Gas Company facility, about a 100 feet away, from where he lives and reported the gas leak to Southern California Gas Company who did not advise Miller to call 911, as it wasn't a large gas leak. (Exh. 6.)

Findings:

1. RB Plumbing dug with a shovel and damaged a gas line without first contacting the regional notification center before beginning excavation on September 25, 2024, at 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, California 92378 because the owner of RB Plumbing stated he knew where the gas pipeline was.
2. RB Plumbing did not call 911 after damaging the line.

Investigator	Supervisor
Ousama Alkahwaji	Daysi Alcantar
Signature	Signature
/s/ Ousama Alkahwaji	/s/ Daysi Alcantar

Exhibit List:

Exhibit No.	Description	Date	Received From
1.	Incident Report submitted to the Underground Safety Board	Received on 10/24/2024	Southern California Gas Company
2.	Board's Investigation Questionnaire 1 st response received from Owner, Richard Miller, RB Plumbing	Received on 11/06/2024	Owner, Richard Miller, RB Plumbing
3.	Board's Investigation Questionnaire 2 nd response received from Owner, Richard Miller, RB Plumbing	Received on 11/07/2024	Owner, Richard Miller, RB Plumbing
4.	Contractor's License Detail for License No. 432191 obtained from the Contractors State License Board website	Downloaded on 11/12/2024	California Contractors State License Board website at https://www.cslb.ca.gov/onlineservices/checklicense/checklicense.aspx
5.	Board's Investigation Questionnaire and Investigator's email to Owner, Richard Miller, RB Plumbing	Emailed on 11/06/2024	
6.	Summary of Telephone Interview with Owner Richard Miller Prepared by Ousama Alkahwaji	Telephone Interview Conducted by Ousama Alkahwaji on 11/12/2024	
7.	Investigator's email to DigAlert requesting ticket information on the	Emailed on 11/06/2024	

	underlying job to this incident		
8.	Email from DigAlert stating there was no valid ticket for the underlying job to this incident	Received on 11/07/2024	Amber Dahl Safety Awareness Director DigAlert

Exhibit 1

No-Ticket Damage Reporting Form

Submitted: October 24, 2024 9:48 AM

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

Luis Robles

Title

Damage Prevention Analyst

Phone Number

657-724-9205

E-mail address

LRobles@socalgas.com

Company

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

Company Name

Socal Gas

Address

555 W 5th St., Los Angeles , 90013

Phone Number

562-202-0687

Email Address

SCGDamagePrevention@socalgas.com

Regional Notification Center member code

Other Contacts

Is the photographer same as the primary reporter named above?

Yes

Incident Information

What was the date and approximate time of the incident?

September 25, 2024 1:51 PM

What is the address where your facility was damaged on 9/25/2024?

Damage Street Address

26559 Blackfoot Trl

Damage County

San Bernardino

Damage City

Rimforest

Damage Cross Street 1

Pine Ave

Damage Cross Street 2

Other Damage location description

Does Socal Gas own, operate or maintain the facility damaged on 9/25/2024?

Yes

What type of excavation did you observe on 9/25/2024 at that address?

Other

Describe the excavation activity you identified.

excavation with a shovel with no USA while doing water service repair.

What excavation companies did you observe on 9/25/2024?

Company Name

RB Plumbing

Company Address

26559 Apache Trail, Rimforest , 92391

Phone Number

909-337-8688

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.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

Richard Miller

Title

Owner

Phone Number

909-337-8688

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Notification Details

Was Socal Gas notified of the proposed excavation by the Regional Notification Center before 9/25/2024?

No

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

September 25, 2024 1:51 PM

How did Socal Gas learn of the damage to the facility?
intercompany email notification

Facility Damaged

What kind of facility was damaged on 9/25/2024?

Natural Gas

Natural Gas

What type of material was the damaged facility?

Plastic

Facility diameter (inches)?

0.5

Incident Details

What kinds of excavation equipment did you observe at the location of the damaged facility?

Shovel

Do you know what equipment damaged the facility?

Yes

What equipment damaged the facility?

Shovel

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

Eyewitness statement

Did Socal Gas contact the Regional Notification Center before repairing the damaged facility?

No

Provide any other relevant information about the damage on 9/25/2024.

Rb Plumbing while excavating with shovel to fix water service leak struck 1/2" plastic service with no USA.

Damages

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders due to the damage to your facility on 9/25/2024?

No

Was any property damaged other than the damaged facility?

No

Was there a fire caused by this damage on 9/25/2024?

No

Was there an evacuation of any nearby homes or businesses caused by this damage on 9/25/2024?

No

Provide an estimate of the number of your customers whose service was interrupted by this damage on 9/25/2024.

1

Conclusions

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

September 25, 2024 5:15 PM

Please explain why you think the facility was damaged on 9/25/2024?

1/2" plastic gas service was damaged with gas escape.

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

Not counting your answers to these questions, did Socal Gas create an investigatory or incident report pertaining to the damage on 9/25/2024?

Yes

Please attach investigatory or incident report here.

USB Damage Report Form RB.docx, 0.03MB

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.

Additional Records

Business cards, photo of company vehicles onsite, etc.

Image _75_.jpg, 0.16MB

Reference Number

N242980054

Incident Time: 01:51PM_____

Incident Date: _09/25/2024_____

Incident Location:

City/County: Rimforest/San Bernardino

Address/Location: 26559 Blackfoot Trail

Incident Cause: Excavating without a USA ticket

Gas Equipment Affected: Service

Material: Plastic Pipe size: 1 / 2 "

Dig In Information:

USA notification required: **Yes / No**

USA notified: **Yes / No** USA # _____

Facilities properly marked: **Yes / No**

Name of Excavator: RB Plumbing

Excavator Contact Person: Richard Miller

Phone: 909-337-8688

On Scene:	Date	Time
Company Personnel on Scene	<u>09/25/24</u>	<u>01:51PM</u>
Gas Flow Stopped	<u>09/25/24</u>	<u>4:30PM</u>

Customer Outages (Quantity) 1

Summary of incident: RB Plumbing hit ½" plastic service with a shovel. They did not have a valid USA ticket

[Home](#) | [Online Services](#) | [License Details](#)

Contractor's License Detail for License # 432191

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.

Business Information

R B PLUMBING COMPANY
P O BOX 476
RIMFOREST, CA 92378-0476
Business Phone Number: [\(909\) 337-8688](#)

Entity Sole Ownership
Issue Date 12/01/1982
Expire Date **12/31/2024**

License Status

This license is current and active.

All information below should be reviewed.

Classifications

[C36 - PLUMBING](#)

Bonding Information

Contractor's Bond

This license filed a Contractor's Bond with [WESTERN SURETY COMPANY](#).

Online Services Quick Hits

- ▶ [Check a License or HIS Registration](#)
- ▶ [Find My Licensed Contractor](#)
- ▶ [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- ▶ [Forms and Applications](#)
- ▶ [Guides and Publications](#)
- ▶ [CSLB Laws and Regulations](#)
- ▶ [List of All CSLB Fees](#)
- ▶ [License Classifications](#)
- ▶ [Contractor Newsletter](#)
- ▶ [Application Status](#)
- ▶ [Application Status \(Secured\)](#)
- ▶ [Application Status by Personnel Name](#)
- ▶ [Application Status by Business Name](#)
- ▶ [CSLB Email Login](#)

Online Services



Exhibit 2

No-Ticket Damage Reporting Form

Submitted Time: November 6, 2024 3:57 PM

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

Name

Richard

Title

Owner

Phone Number

909-223-0266

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Please provide the identifying information for RB Plumbing in general.

California Contractor's State License Board (CSLB) license

432191

Physical Address

26484 Apache Trail, Rimforest, CA 92378

Mailing Address

PO Box 476, Rimforest, CA 92378

Phone Number

909-337-8688

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Did RB Plumbing damage the NaturalGas facility while excavating at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on the 9/25/2024? (Select One)

Yes

Were there any other companies at or near 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024? (Select One)

No

Did someone in RB Plumbing, or anyone else, contact the Regional Notification Center on 9/25/2024?

No

Did Socal Gas respond after the Regional Notification Center created the 811 ticket?

Is RB Plumbing aware that it needed to contact the Regional Notification Center prior to excavating?

Yes

Did the Regional Notification Center create an 811-ticket for 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest that RB Plumbing worked?

No

If no one at RB Plumbing, or anyone else, contacted the Regional Notification Center before excavating, why not?

Other

Explain why RB Plumbing did not obtain an 811 ticket?

I knew the location of the gas line and had exposed it since it was only a few inches below the ground level.

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

No

The damage notification indicated that a facility was damaged at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024. Is that correct?

Yes

Was RB Plumbing the prime contractor on the project at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024?

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 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest when the facility was damaged.

Name

Richard Miller

Title

owner

Phone Number

909-337-8688

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Add an additional individual?

No

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

No foreman

Facility Damage

Was a facility damaged on 9/25/2024?

Yes

Describe the damaged facility.

Small diameter PE gas line

Identify the type of material damaged.

Small diameter PE gas line.

Explain how the facility was damaged?

The gas line was exposed and while clearing around the line to gain larger access below the pipe, the shovel glanced off a rock and cut the gas line.

What equipment did RB Plumbing use on 9/25/2024? (Select All That Are Applicable)

Shovel

What type of equipment damaged the facility?

Shovel

Who was operating the equipment that damaged the facility on 9/25/2024?

Richard Miller

Does RB Plumbing own that equipment?

Yes

Emergency Response

How did RB Plumbing learn that the Socal Gas facility was damaged on 9/25/2024?

I cut it

Did anyone with RB Plumbing call 911 on 9/25/2024 after the damage had occurred?

No

Was there an emergency response to the incident from the fire department, a law enforcement department, or an ambulance on 9/25/2024?

No

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders on 9/25/2024?

No

Were there any fatalities on 9/25/2024 or afterwards, due to the damage at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest?

No

Was there property damage on 9/25/2024, excluding the facility damage?

No

Was there a fire on 9/25/2024 as a result of the damage to the facility?

No

Was there an evacuation of any homes or businesses on 9/25/2024 as a result of the damage to the facility?

No

Are you aware of anyone else that called 911?

No

Did anyone at RB Plumbing contact the Regional Notification Center after the damage on 9/25/2024?

No

Did anyone at RB Plumbing contact Socal Gas after the damage?

No

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

No longer doing any trenching of any kind. I'm retiring.

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

This was purely an accident from a glancing shovel. The gas line was exposed prior due to prior knowledge that it was there and I was just enlarging around the line when the shovel slipped on a rock.

Exhibit 3

No-Ticket Damage Reporting Form

Submitted Time: November 7, 2024 2:13 PM

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

Name

Richard

Title

Owner

Phone Number

909-223-0266

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Please provide the identifying information for RB Plumbing in general.

California Contractor's State License Board (CSLB) license

432191

Physical Address

264484 Apache Trail, Rimforest, CA 92378

Mailing Address

PO Box 476, Rimforest, CA 92378

Phone Number

909-337-8688

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Did RB Plumbing damage the NaturalGas facility while excavating at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on the 9/25/2024? (Select One)

Yes

Were there any other companies at or near 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024? (Select One)

No

Did someone in RB Plumbing, or anyone else, contact the Regional Notification Center on 9/25/2024?

No

Did Socal Gas respond after the Regional Notification Center created the 811 ticket?

Is RB Plumbing aware that it needed to contact the Regional Notification Center prior to excavating?

Yes

Did the Regional Notification Center create an 811-ticket for 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest that RB Plumbing worked?

No

If no one at RB Plumbing, or anyone else, contacted the Regional Notification Center before excavating, why not?

Other

Explain why RB Plumbing did not obtain an 811 ticket?

The gas pipe was already known to exist due to prior experience in the area and was exposed before trenching further.

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

No

The damage notification indicated that a facility was damaged at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024. Is that correct?

Yes

Was RB Plumbing the prime contractor on the project at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024?

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 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest when the facility was damaged.

Name

Richard Miller

Title

owner

Phone Number

909-223-0266

Email Address

rick@rbplumbing.com

Add an additional individual?

No

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

No Foreman

Facility Damage

Was a facility damaged on 9/25/2024?

Yes

Describe the damaged facility.

The gas line was damaged after identifying and locating the line from having worked on the area many years prior. I was digging around the gas line to expose it further when my shovel glanced off a rock and hit the gas line and cut it.

Identify the type of material damaged.

1/2" PE gas line

Explain how the facility was damaged?

Hit with a shovel while clearing dirt and rock from around the pipe.

What equipment did RB Plumbing use on 9/25/2024? (Select All That Are Applicable)

Shovel

What type of equipment damaged the facility?

Shovel

Who was operating the equipment that damaged the facility on 9/25/2024?

Richard Miller

Does RB Plumbing own that equipment?

Yes

Emergency Response

How did RB Plumbing learn that the Socal Gas facility was damaged on 9/25/2024?

I was the workman who damaged the pipe.

Did anyone with RB Plumbing call 911 on 9/25/2024 after the damage had occurred?

No

Was there an emergency response to the incident from the fire department, a law enforcement department, or an ambulance on 9/25/2024?

No

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders on 9/25/2024?

No

Were there any fatalities on 9/25/2024 or afterwards, due to the damage at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest?

No

Was there property damage on 9/25/2024, excluding the facility damage?

No

Was there a fire on 9/25/2024 as a result of the damage to the facility?

No

Was there an evacuation of any homes or businesses on 9/25/2024 as a result of the damage to the facility?

No

Are you aware of anyone else that called 911?

No

Did anyone at RB Plumbing contact the Regional Notification Center after the damage on 9/25/2024?

No

Did anyone at RB Plumbing contact Socal Gas after the damage?

Yes

Who at RB Plumbing contacted the Socal Gas?

Richard Miller

What is the name of the person at the Socal Gas contacted by the individual you identified above?

Unknown to me. It was the gas company business line that was called

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

I'm not doing that kind of work any longer as I am retiring at the end of this year at 70 years of age. I would like to ask for leniency due to the reason that I have been working without an incident for over 50 years.

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

Because I knew where the lines were and exposed the gas line in an attempt to protect it from the digging, I didn't believe there was a need to call for pipe locations since I already had that knowledge. I won't make that mistake again.

R. B. PLUMBING CO.

26484 APACHE TRAIL

P.O. BOX 476

RIM FOREST, CA 92378

15369

PHONE (909) 337-8688

Rick@RBPlumbing.com

Calif. State Contractors' License No. C36-432191

Name

Job at

City

Zip

City

Zip

Telephone

☐ Owner

☐ Tenant

Bill To

WORKMAN

Customer

☒ Old ☐ New

Classification

DATE 10-22-24

WORK AUTHORIZATION - I/We hereby authorize the work described along with the necessary materials and parts

WORK ORDERED:

MATERIAL USED

AMOUNT

Time	From	To	Hours		
Mon.					
Tues.					
Wed.					
Thurs.					
Fri.					
Sat.					
Sun.					
Total Hours					
ENTERED					
Invoice	Journal	Ledger	Cards		

1-3/4" water service line installed
from meter to house

10-22-24

TO OUR CUSTOMERS: Service men are required to have work slip signed. This is done in order to protect you, the workmen, and ourselves, and to enable us to give you absolute satisfactory service. You are respectfully requested to examine material and labor statement before workmen leave the job, and if you find everything satisfactory, okay this ticket. If service is unsatisfactory, in any way, please phone our office immediately.

*I find the time and material charged above satisfactory and agree to pay for same on presentation of invoice, and further agree to pay reasonable charges for collection, including attorneys fees in the event of my default.

A PENALTY WILL BE CHARGED AT THE RATE OF 1 1/2% PER MONTH ON UNPAID BALANCES AFTER 30 DAYS OF INVOICE DATE. ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE 18%.

Signed

by

TOTAL

6210

—

Total Material

Tax

Service

Permits - Insurance

Trucks - Equipment

CC FEE

210

—

Contractors are required by law to be licensed and regulated by the Contractors' State License Board which has jurisdiction to investigate complaints against contractors if a complaint regarding a patent act or omission is filed within four years of the date of the alleged violation. A complaint regarding a latent act or omission pertaining to structural defects must be filed within 10 years of the date of the alleged violation. Any questions concerning a contractor may be referred to the Registrar, Contractors' State License Board, P.O. Box 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826.



Exhibit 4



Contractor's License Detail for License # 432191

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 3/21/2025 9:30:36 AM

Business Information

R B PLUMBING COMPANY
P O BOX 476
RIMFOREST, CA 92378-0476
Business Phone Number:(909) 337-8688

Entity Sole Ownership
Issue Date 12/01/1982
Expire Date 12/31/2026

License Status

This license is current and active.

All information below should be reviewed.

Classifications

C36 - PLUMBING

Bonding Information

Contractor's Bond

This license filed a Contractor's Bond with [WESTERN SURETY COMPANY](#).

Bond Number: 66632143
Bond Amount: \$25,000
Effective Date: 08/08/2023
[Contractor's Bond History](#)

Workers' Compensation

This license is exempt from having workers compensation insurance; they certified that they have no employees at this time.

Effective Date: 11/07/2024
Expire Date: None
[Workers' Compensation History](#)

[Back to Top](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Accessibility Certification](#)

[Conditions of Use](#)

[Accessibility](#)

Exhibit 5

From: Alkahlwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov
Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 5:02 PM
To: rick@rbplumbing.com
Cc: Alcantar, Daysi@EnergySafety
Subject: Underground Safety Board – No-811 Investigation Case No. N242980054

Dear RB Plumbing,

Response Due Date: November 13, 2024

The Underground Safety Board (Board) has been notified about damage to a facility, potentially involving RB Plumbing. 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 RB Plumbing damaged the facility on 09/25/2024, by excavating without first contacting the Regional Notification Center. The damage occurred at or near 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, CA 92378.

The purpose of this report is to gather all the pertinent facts. The questions below, tailored for RB Plumbing, 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, RB Plumbing 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 RB Plumbing 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.

Thanks,

Ousama Alkahwaji

Investigator

Underground Infrastructure Directorate

Phone: (279) 245-1157

www.energysafety.ca.gov



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INFRASTRUCTURE
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No-811 Excavator Intake Questions



The Underground Safety Board (Board) has been notified about damage to a facility, potentially involving RB Plumbing. 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 RB Plumbing damaged the facility on 9/25/2024 by excavating without first contacting the Regional Notification Center. The damage occurred at or near 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest.

The purpose of this report is to gather all the pertinent facts. The questions below, tailored for RB Plumbing, 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, RB Plumbing 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 RB Plumbing receive an NOPV, you

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, attach 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 RB Plumbing in general. ▼

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

Physical Address*

Mailing Address*

Phone Number*

Email Address*

Did RB Plumbing damage the NaturalGas facility while excavating at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on the 9/25/2024? (Select One) *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Were there any other companies at or near 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024? (Select One) *

☐ No

Did someone in RB Plumbing, or anyone else, contact the Regional Notification Center 9/25/2024? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

The damage notification indicated that a facility was damaged at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024. Is that correct? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Was RB Plumbing the prime contractor on the project at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest on 9/25/2024? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Provide the names, phone numbers, and if applicable, their email address for all your personnel who were at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest 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 9/25/2024? *

☐ No

Describe the damaged facility.*

Identify the type of material damaged.*

Explain how the facility was damaged?*

What equipment did RB Plumbing use on 9/25/2024? (Select All That Are Applicable) *

☐ Auger/vertical bore

☐ Backhoe/trackhoe/excavator

☐ Bulldozer/front loader

☐ Horizontal drilling or boring equipment

☐ Farm equipment

☐ 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 9/25/2024? *

Does RB Plumbing own that equipment? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Emergency Response ▼

How did RB Plumbing learn that the Socal Gas facility was damaged on 9/25/2024? *

Did anyone with RB Plumbing call 911 on 9/25/2024 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 9/25/2024? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Were there any injuries to any personnel or bystanders on 9/25/2024? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Were there any fatalities on 9/25/2024 or afterwards, due to the damage at 26559 Blackfoot Trl, Rimforest? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Was there property damage on 9/25/2024, excluding the facility damage? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

was there a fire on 9/25/2024 as a result of the damage to the facility?

*

☐ Yes

☐ No

Was there an evacuation of any homes or businesses on 9/25/2024 as a result of the damage to the facility? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Are you aware of anyone else that called 911?*

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did anyone at RB Plumbing contact the Regional Notification Center after the damage on 9/25/2024 ? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Did anyone at RB Plumbing contact Social Gas after the damage? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

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

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

Submit

Powered by ArcGIS Survey123

Exhibit 6



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

REPORT DATE: November 12, 2024

CASE NO: N242980054 RB Plumbing

DATE AND TIME OF INTERVIEW: November 12, 2024, at 08:56 am

LOCATION OF INTERVIEW: Phone

INTERVIEWER: Ousama Alkahwaji

NAME, TITLE, AND COMPANY OF INTERVIEWEE:

Richard Miller, Owner at RB Plumbing
909-223-0266
rick@rbplumbing.com

INTERVIEW:

Question: Please confirm the date and time of the reported damage in 36559 Apache Trail?

Miller: I can't remember exactly.

Question: Was it in the morning or evening?

Miller: It was in the morning.

Question: You mentioned in the survey response that no one at RB Plumbing or elsewhere contacted the regional center before the excavation, and you answered "other". Can you clarify why?

Miller: I was already familiar with the line's location. It was just below the surface, so I only needed to remove a bit of dirt from the top.

Question: I see. Could you explain the kind of plumbing work you were doing?

Miller: I was addressing erosion issues. The gas line was only a few inches below the surface. I had worked there years ago and knew the line was very close to the ground level, so I exposed it to be careful around it. I was being cautious but encountered a large root and some rocks near the line. The line ran between two roots. I was moving dirt away from them when my shovel glanced off a rock and hit the gas line.

Question: How deep did you dig?

Miller: About four inches. I was planning to dig down about two feet and exposed the line to keep it safe.

Question: What tool were you using?

Miller: It was a shovel.

Question: Were you the prime contractor for this job?

Miller: Yes.

Question: Why you didn't call 811 before digging?

Miller: Because I already knew where the line was, I knew it was only a few inches down and exposed it carefully.

Question: I understand you didn't call 811 before the incident, but why didn't you call them afterward?

Miller: I have no knowledge that I have to.

Question: Did you call 911?

Miller: No.

Question: How did SoCal Gas learn about the incident?

Miller: I live close to their facility, about 100 feet away. I went there personally and informed them.

Question: Did they handle the repair the same day?

Miller: Yes, within an hour.

Question: Did they advise you to call 911?

Miller: No, they didn't. There wasn't a large gas leak since there was a flow limit device that cut off the gas when I hit the line.

Question: How did you realize you'd hit the gas line? Was it the smell?

Miller: Yes, I noticed a smell.

Question: I appreciate your time, thank you and goodbye.

Miller: Thank you, goodbye.

Exhibit 7

Sent:
To:
Subject:

Hi Amber,

Please provide a copy of all tickets, revisions, and electronic positive responses at about 26559 Blackfoot Trail, Rimforest, CA 92378 for August 14, 2024, to September 25, 2024.

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

Thanks,

Ousama Alkhwaji

Investigator
Underground Infrastructure Directorate
Phone: (279) 245-1157
www.energysafety.ca.gov



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Exhibit 8

Alkhwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov

From: Amber Dahl <amber@digalert.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 12:16 PM
To: Alkhwaji, Ousama@EnergySafety.ca.gov
Subject: File N242980054
Attachments: N242980054.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™

November 7, 2024

Ousama Alkhwaji
Underground Safety Board

File Number: N242980054

Dear Ousama,

After searching our records from 8/14/24 through 9/25/24, we were unable to find any DigAlert tickets for the location at or near 26559 Blackfoot Trail in Rimforest. 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