

California Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board

In the Matter of
Novastar Construction Corporation
Respondent

Case No. CAS-01557-P3T1F7

DECISION REGARDING NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION

On April 14, 2025, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, California Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board (the Board) considered Case No. CAS-01557-P3T1F7. Board investigative staff issued a Notice of Probable Violation (NOPV) to Novastar Construction Corporation (Respondent), dated February 18, 2025, alleging violations of Government Code (Gov. Code) sections 4216.2(b), 4216.4(c)(2), and 4216.4(c)(3) and California Code of Regulations title 19, section 4151(c). Respondent did not submit a response to the NOPV.

Board members Charland, Clausen, Johns, Johnson, and Sorem participated in the decision. Board Member Muñoz was not present for the meeting.

FINDING

Having considered the investigation report, the Board finds that Respondent violated Gov. Code sections 4216.2(b), 4216.4(c)(2) and 4216.4(c)(3)) and California Code of Regulations title 19, section 4151(c).

VIOLATION SUMMARY

Respondent conducted excavation activities without first obtaining a valid ticket by contacting the Regional Notification Center and damaged a natural gas line. Respondent failed to notify 911 emergency services and did not inform the Regional Notification Center of the damage within the mandated 48-hour period. Respondent failed to respond to multiple information requests from Board investigators.

JURISDICTION

This matter is subject to the jurisdiction of the CONTRACTOR STATE LICENSE BOARD.

SANCTIONS

The Board RECOMMENDS that the CONTRACTOR STATE LICENSE BOARD order Respondent to take the Board's education course and pay a fine of \$1500.

The following factors were considered relevant to this sanction determination:

- Respondent excavated without notifying the regional notification center.
- Respondent damaged a natural gas line.
- Respondent did not notify 911 emergency services
- Respondent did not notify the regional notification center of the damage.
- Respondent failed to cooperate with the Board's investigators.

/s/ William Johns
William Johns, Chair

Date: May 12, 2025