



NOTICE OF DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT PRIOR TO PROPOSED RULEMAKING GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

Public Comment Period

July 22, 2025, through September 3, 2025

The Underground Safety Board (Board) invites stakeholders and the public to provide feedback on the draft regulatory language outlined below. The purpose of this preliminary comment period is to collect feedback from stakeholders before initiating a formal rulemaking process. The Board will consider comments before proceeding with the rulemaking process.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person, or their authorized representative, may submit written comments on the proposed language. The 30-day comment period begins on July 22, 2025, and ends on September 3, 2025. Comments must be received **by 5 p.m. on September 3, 2025**. Additional opportunities for public comment will be available .

- E-filing: Docket # [2025-07-01-PC](#)
- Email: digboard@energysafety.ca.gov (include in the subject line of the email “GIS Regulatory Language Public Comments”), or
- Mail to:
Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
Attn: Jaime Hastings, Underground Infrastructure Directorate
715 P Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

If you would like to automatically receive information about the Underground Safety Board via email, sign up on our mailing list at: [Underground Safety Board Meeting and Workshop List](#)

DRAFT REGULATORY LANGUAGE FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

New definitions to be added in Cal. Code Reg., title 19, section §4000

Geospatial coordinates are the latitude and longitude coordinates in decimal degrees identifying a physical location referenced to current official horizontal datum of the National Spatial Reference System, or its successor.

Geospatial coordinates must be in decimal format and have two significant figures after the decimal point.

New subsurface installation means an underground facility installed where one did not previously exist or installed as a replacement, relocation, rehabilitation, major modification, or major repair of an existing underground facility. A minor repair performed during routine inspection or routine maintenance is not a new subsurface installation.

Additional Regulations

1. Accuracy of Geospatial Coordinates

For all new subsurface installations, operators must collect geospatial coordinates in the field as the components of a new subsurface installation are installed.

The horizontal positional accuracy of these field-collected geospatial coordinates must have a horizontal positional accuracy of 100 mm.

Operators must record horizontal positional accuracy either as an attribute of the new subsurface installation or as metadata.

2. Component and Attribute Records

For all new subsurface installations, operators must:

a. Create and maintain geospatial coordinate records for all of the following components if they are present:

- 1) Locations of above-ground access points to tracer wire or tracer tape,
- 2) Marker balls,
- 3) Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) devices and the frequencies they emit,
- 4) Locations of stubs.



- b. Record the presence of any pipe wrap, warning tape, coating, or insulation in the attribute records for new pipeline installations.
- c. Record the presence of a “high priority subsurface installation” designation as an attribute record for high priority subsurface installations.

3. Geospatial-Coordinate Metadata Records

For all new subsurface installations, operators must maintain the following metadata for geospatial coordinate records:

- 1) Geodetic datum,
- 2) Manufacturer name and model name of the equipment used to collect geospatial coordinates,
- 3) Date when geospatial coordinates were collected,
- 4) Name of the organization responsible for creating the geospatial coordinates records.

