Utility Coordination Project Subcommittee
Meeting Notes
January 23, 2020 10:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
George J. Igel Company

Life of a Ticket

After considering various examples it was determined by the Subcommittee that a start date of 16 days from the time of the call to OHIO811 may be the better option. It was also determined that an expiration date of 30 days from the time of the call to OHIO811 should apply.

Positives:

- Eliminates some confusion and misperceptions regarding the need to call every ten days.
- Black and White Expiration Dates and Easier Tracking
- Provides clarity and eliminates necessity of computing weekends and "holidays" (various contractors define "holidays" differently)
- Scheduling – Excavators that currently require renewal of tickets every 8 days due to the possibility of "leaving the site inactive for multiple days," etc. can use readily available calendar software to schedule their calls every 14 days (ex: biweekly, every other Wed., etc.) without any potential workflow disruption;
- Reduced frequency of eight-day calls
- Reduced demand for resources
- May decrease abuse
- Education among excavators will be straightforward.

Challenges:

- May encourage unnecessary abuse
- Change from 10 business days to 16 calendar days Increases the possibility that new utilities were installed
- Physical life of markings - Increased likelihood that marked grass was mowed and flags were removed
- Average life of paint in Ohio's environment is less than 30 days

Alice was tasked with writing proposed language regarding the life of a ticket:

> 3781.28 Excavator **notifying protection service or pipeline owner**
>
> (A) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (C), (D), (E), and (F) of this section, at least forty-eight hours but not more than ~~ten working days~~ sixteen calendar days before commencing excavation, the excavator shall notify a protection service of the location of the excavation site and the date on which excavation is planned to commence.
>
> 3781.31 **Notifying of commencement of excavation or of removal of marking or expiration of notification**
>
> (B) If the markings of underground utility facilities made under section 3781.29 of the Revised Code are destroyed or removed before excavation is completed, the excavator shall notify the utility through the protection service that the markings have been destroyed or removed, and the utility shall remark the facilities in accordance with section 3781.29 of the Revised Code.
>
> (C) The notice provided to the protection service shall remain in good standing for thirty calendar days from the date of the call to the protection service. If excavation at the site extends past 30 calendar days the excavator shall notify the utilities through the protection service, and the utility shall remark the facilities in accordance with section 3781.29 of the Revised Code.

Large / Utility Coordination Projects:

The mechanism for creating a UCP continues to be discussed. Whether multiple contiguous tickets called in simultaneously would automatically trigger a Utility Coordinating Project. There is concern that for large excavation companies, every project would be potentially labeled a UCP unless multiple triggers are required.

Forty-four large projects were created in 2018 and 2019. The process is being underutilized. Education among Ohio stakeholders and clarifying the purpose of 004 and 007 codes may be helpful.

The spreadsheet (included here from the January 7th meeting) may contain the triggers used to trigger a UCP within the OHIO811 system, assuming an automatic process is the best method. This discussion is ongoing and identifying and correcting shortcomings is still needed. This tool uses most of the previously identified "potential triggers" for a UCP. They are: Geographical Size; Complexity of Excavation Work; Duration of Work; Work Progresses; Site Conditions; Number of Utility Conflicts; Complexity of Locating Efforts.

Utility Coordination Project: OHIO811 System Triggers

Must meet three criteria to be a Utility Coordination Project	Incorporated	Unincorporated	Yes/No/Other
Length (feet)	1,000	2,000	
Size (sq feet)	460,000	1,000,000	
Utilities notified this ticket	12	12	
Is work in public ROW	Yes	Yes	
Complexity of Locate (define)			
Site Conditions			
Project Duration = or > 60 days			
Was a design ticket previously created for this project?			Yes

Size/Scope:

The Subcommittee agreed to eliminate different measurements for urban/incorporated vs. rural/unincorporated in favor of promoting a single quarter mile/1,320 foot standard.

The subcommittee's next meeting date is:

Thursday, February 20th
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
George J. Igel Company
3500 Alum Creek Drive
Columbus, Ohio

Submitted By Jeff Kursman and Alice Miller

2/3/2020