Agenda Date: 1/18/12 Agenda Item: 1B



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

		DIVISION OF AUDITS & RELIABILITY & SECURITY
IN THE MATTER OF THE RATE CHARGED BY ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. FOR OPERATION OF THE NEW JERSEY ONE-CALL DAMAGE PREVENTION SYSTEM)))	ORDER DOCKET NO. AA09020127
	,	- 0 01121 110.70 100020121

Parties of Record:

Thomas Hoff, President One Call Concepts, Inc.
Stefanie Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Ratepayer Advocate

BY THE BOARD:

The Board of Public Utilities ("Board") has jurisdiction to oversee and enforce the provisions of the Underground Facility Protection Act ("the Act") pursuant to the provisions set forth in N.J.S.A. 48:2-73 et seq. The primary purpose of the Act is to establish the One-Call Damage Prevention System ("the System") for the protection of underground facilities that are used for the conveyance of water, forced sewage, telecommunications, cable television, electricity, oil, petroleum products, gas, optical signals, traffic control, or for the transportation of a hazardous liquid.

Through the Department of Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property, a Request for Proposal was issued to designate a System Operator for the System. On September 16, 2009, after reviewing the report and recommendations of the Evaluation Committee, the Board selected One Call Concepts, Inc. ("OCC" or "the Vendor"), of Hanover, Maryland, as System Operator of the System for a period beginning February 17, 2010 and ending February 16, 2015. Accordingly, the Department of Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property ("Treasury"), entered into Contract No. A75304 ("Contract") with OCC, on behalf of the Board, for the five-year period effective February 17, 2010 through February 16, 2015

As System Operator, the Vendor's primary responsibility is to process incoming messages from excavators of planned excavation or demolition activity and send notifications ("Tickets") to underground facility operators with facilities in the area of the proposed activity. The Contract provides that OCC will be compensated for each request for mark-out ("Message") that it receives and that it will collect this compensation through a per-Ticket charge to underground facility operators. The exact amount of this charge is calculated based upon an estimate, made at the beginning of each contract year, of the average number of Tickets that will be sent for each Message received ("the Ratio"). The Ratio is established to ensure that the charges for Tickets will provide sufficient revenue to pay OCC at the current contract year per message rate.

OCC's first year contract rate effective February 17, 2010 through February 16, 2011 was \$6.90. OCC's second year contract rate effective February 17, 2011 is \$7.01 per Message. Effective February 17, 2012, the third year contract rate will be \$7.13 per Message. Because the estimated ratio for any given year may result in either over or under compensation of the System Operator, the Contract also provides that OCC shall, at the request of NJBPU staff, set a lower or higher charge per Ticket. On November 23, 2011, OCC filed with the Board seeking approval of a revised per Ticket rate. The proposed rate takes into account prior recoveries, charges for other permissible services as well as the third year contract rate of \$7.13 per message.

In addition to the Contract rate, the Tariff sets forth rates for other permissible services provided by OCC under the Contract. Any revenue from these charges shall be included by OCC when calculating the annual reconciliation as well as any subsequent rate changes and true-ups.

Following a review of the letter and supporting documents, as well as discussions with OCC, Staff recommends that the Board adopt the Tariff pages and increase the Ticket rate to \$1.18 effective February 1, 2012.

The Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> that an increase in the Ticket Rate is necessary to ensure appropriate recovery to fund the Contract Rate. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY ORDERS</u> that the rate per Ticket be increased to \$1.18 and that OCC's tariff be approved to be effective on February 1, 2012. ¹

The Board reserves the right to order an increase and/or decrease at a future point in the contract year if warranted. The information presented by OCC and a review of the proper collection and calculation of rates and ratios is subject to audit, including a review of collection activities, proper expenditure of money under the Contract and any additional over/under collections.

¹ This Order does not change the contract Rate. Pursuant to the Contract, OCC will continue to receive \$7.01 for all messages up to and including February 16, 2012 and will receive \$7.13 for all messages from February 17, 2012 through February 16, 2013.

This Order shall be effective on February 1, 2012.

DATED: ///8/12

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

PRESIDENT

OMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

Utilities

IN THE MATTER OF THE RATE CHARGED BY ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. FOR OPERATION OF THE NEW JERSEY ONE-CALL DAMAGE PREVENTION SYSTEM DOCKET NO. AA09020127

SERVICE LIST

Petitioner

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