

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

IN THE MATTER OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF	)	RELIABILITY & SECURITY
THE UNDERGROUND FACILITY PROTECTION	)	
ACT, N.J.S.A. 48:2-73 to -91	)	ORDER ACCEPTING
	)	SETTLEMENTS
•	)	
	)	DOCKET NOS. ES19080981K
	)	et al. (see attached appendix)

#### Parties of Record:

Paula James, Atlantic City Electric Company Franky Coriano, Public Service Electric & Gas Company Stephen R. Bishop, New Jersey American Water Company Thomas Mecouch, Sr., President Crown Pipeline Construction Jim Bruno, Tele Cable, Inc. JMOC Builders Choice Landscape & Design, Inc. Deborah Franco, South Jersey Gas Company Sebastian Camps, Joe's Masonry LLC Shawn McGaha, McGaha Landscaping Geraldine Tedesco, Acme Piling Company D. Forlenza, Bella Landscape William L. Hare, Pool Con, LLC C. Lombarrato, Wetlands Inc. Maria Diaz, New Jersey Natural Gas Company Nick Pinto, New Jersey American Water Company Donald Richards, Jersey Central Power & Light Company Rocco Pistone, Pistone Plumbing & Heating Mark Lamarra, Malco Electric Company

#### BY THE BOARD:

The Board of Public Utilities ("Board") has jurisdiction to oversee and enforce the provisions of the Underground Facility Protection Act ("Act") pursuant to the provisions set forth in N.J.S.A. 48:2-73 to -91. The primary purpose of the Act is to establish the One-Call Damage Prevention System ("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. In declaring its findings and the purpose of the Act, the Legislature stated, in pertinent part:

That damage to underground facilities caused by excavation and the discharge of explosives poses a significant risk to the public safety; that such damage to underground natural gas facilities poses a substantial risk to the public safety; and that the implementation of a comprehensive One-Call Damage Prevention System can substantially reduce the frequency of damage caused by these activities.

The Legislature therefore determines that it is in the public interest for the State to require all operators of underground facilities to participate in a One-Call Damage Prevention System and to require all excavators to notify the One-Call Damage Prevention System prior to excavation or demolition. [N.J.S.A. 48:2-74.]

The Act defines "excavator" as "any person performing excavation or demolition" and "operator" as "a person owning or operating, or controlling the operation of, an underground facility. . . ." N.J.S.A. 48:2-75.

The Act subjects violators of its provisions to civil penalties of no less than \$1,000.00 and no more than \$2,500.00 per violation per day, not to exceed \$25,000.00 for any related series of violations. N.J.S.A. 48:2-88(a). Violations relating to natural gas or hazardous liquid underground pipelines or distribution facilities shall subject the violator to civil penalties not to exceed \$200,000.00 per violation per day and not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for any related series of violations. N.J.S.A. 48:2-86(c). In addition, a violator may be assessed the cost of any Board investigation, inspection or monitoring survey which leads to the establishment of a violation and for the reasonable costs of preparing and litigating the matter. N.J.S.A. 48:2-86(b)(2).

Following reports of failure to call the System prior to commencing excavation or demolition activities, failure to hand dig and locate facilities, failure to use reasonable care, or reports of failure to mark out underground facilities or properly mark them, Board Staff contacted the entities listed on the attached Appendix and informed them of the date and location of the alleged violations, also listed on the Appendix.

In an attempt to resolve these matters, each excavator or operator listed on the Appendix has submitted an Offer of Settlement to the Board for its consideration. Each such Offer of Settlement is summarized in the Appendix. The Offers of Settlement were made available to the Board for its review. After consideration of the matters, the Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> these Offers of Settlement to be reasonable and in the public interest, and <u>HEREBY ACCEPTS</u> these Offers of Settlement in full satisfaction of the above referenced alleged violations of the Act.

By acceptance of the various Offers of Settlement and the timely payment thereof, the excavator or operator has waived any rights to a hearing, and the Board has waived any rights to bring an action for civil penalties as permitted by the Act in connection with the above-referenced alleged violations. It must also be noted that the acceptance of the Offers of Settlement is for settlement purposes only, and applies strictly to the specific incidents described in the Appendix. This acceptance is without prejudice as to the position of the State of New Jersey or any agency or subdivision thereof if other violations are present, now or in the future.

of New Jersey or any agency or subdivision thereof if other violations are present, now or in the future.

This Order shall be effective on December 16, 2019.

### NO FURTHER ACTION BY THE RESPONDENTS IS REQUIRED.

DATED: 12/6/19

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** 

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

**PRESIDENT** 

ĆOMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

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 ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE UNDERGROUND FACILITY PROTECTION ACT, N.J.S.A. 48:2-73 ET SEQ. ORDER ACCEPTING SETTLEMENTS DOCKET NOS. ES19080981K et al. (see attached appendix)

## SERVICE LIST

Paula James Atlantic City Electric Co. 5100 Hudy Highway Mays Landing, NJ 08330 Frank Coriano Public Service Electric & Gas Co. 80 Park Plaza Newark, NJ 07103

Stephen R. Bishop New Jersey American Water Co. 167 JFK Pkwy Short Hills, NJ 07078 Thomas Mecouch, Sr., President Crown Pipeline Construction 3345 Delsea Dr. Franklinville, NJ 08322

Jim Bruno Telecable, Inc. 1511 New Market Ave. South Plainfield, NJ 07080 JMOC Builders 1099 Mt. Kimble Rd. Morristown, NJ 07096

Choice Landscape & Design, Inc. 49 Ridge Rd. White House Station, NJ 08889

Kmetz 499 Marlboro Rd. Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Deborah Franco South Jersey Gas Co. One South Jersey Plaza Folsom, NJ 08037 Sebastian Camps Joe's Masonry LLC 14 Garden St. Bergenfield, NJ 07641

Shawn McGaha McGaha Landscaping 47 Meadow Brook Rd. Randolph, NJ 07869 Geraldine Tedesco Acme Piling Company 2110 Route 37, E. Toms River, NJ 08753

D. Forlenza Bella Landscape P.O. Box 798 Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849 William L. Hare Pool Con, LLC 315 W. County Line Rd. Hatboro, PA 19040

C. Lombarrato
Wetlands Inc.
569 N. Midland Ave.
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

Donald Richards Jersey Central Power & Light Co. 55 River Avenue Lakewood, NJ 08701

Mark LaMalco Malco Electric Company 602 Ryan Avenue Westville, NJ 08093

Phillip Galka NJBPU Division of Reliability & Security 44 S. Clinton Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, NJ 08625

Matko Ilic, DAG Deputy Attorney General Office 25 Market St. – 7th Floor, West Wing Trenton, NJ 08625

Lauren Mattox NJBPU Division Reliability & Security 44 S. Clinton Ave, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, NJ 08625 Nick Pinto New Jersey American Water Co. 1025 Laurel Oak Road Voorhees, NJ 08043

Rocco Pistone
Piston Plumbing & Heating
58 Brandywine Road
Wayne, NJ 07470

Maria Diaz New Jersey Natural Gas Co. 1415 Wyckoff Road Wall, NJ 07719

James Giuliano, Director NJBPU Division of Reliability & Security 44 S. Clinton Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, NJ 08625

Heather Weisband NJBPU-Counsel's Office 44 S. Clinton Ave., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, NJ 08625

Damage Type	BPU Dkt No.	One Call Case	Type of Violation	Penalty	Operator	Excavator	Violation Date	Description/Location	Payment Received
37.7	ES19080981K				Орегатог	LXCAVALOI	Date	<del></del>	
Damage, Electric	E219000991K	EOC2016-0218	Did not properly mark out	\$2,000	Atlantic City Electric Company		11/07/16	Voorhees, NJ	11/07/19
Ďamage, Electric	ES19080982K	EOC2016-0219	Did not properly mark out	\$2,000	Atlantic City Electric Company		11/07/16	Voorhees, NJ	3/19/19
Damage, Électric	ES19080983K	EOC2016-0187	Did not properly mark out	\$2,000	Atlantic City Electric Company	,	08/21/16	Beach Haven West, NJ	10/25/18
Damage, Gas	GS19030292K	GOC2016-0767	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		06/23/16	Rantan, NJ	12/07/18
Damage, None	AS19101378K	NOC2018-0193	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	New Jersey American Water Co.		03/12/19	Cape May, NJ	09/03/19
Damage, Electric	ES19101377K	EOC2016-0111	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000	<del></del>	Crown Pipeline Construction	06/27/16	Aura, NJ	03/19/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101376K	GOC2016-0555	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		05/18/16	Caldwell, NJ	01/02/19
Damage, Electric	ES19101375K	EOC2017-0058	Failure to use reasonable care	\$3,000		Tele Cable, Inc.	03/03/17	East Brunswick NJ	03/19/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101374K	GOC2016-0546	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		05/19/16	Wingston, NJ	05/29/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101373K	GOC2017-0543	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000	21000110 & 043 00.	JMOC Builders	05/16/17	South Orange, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	G\$19101372K	GOC2017-1307	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		Choice Landscape & Design, Inc.	09/26/17	Benardsville, NJ	05/31/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101371K	GOC2017-1309	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		09/28/17	Oaklyn, NJ	07/23/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101370K	GOC2017-1774	Failure to use reasonable care	\$3,000		Kmetz	12/18/17	Hillsborough, NJ	06/19/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101369K	GOC2018-0473	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	South Jersey Gas		05/15/18	Laurel Springs, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101368K	GOC2018-0815	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		07/11/18	New Brunswick, NJ	07/23/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101367K	GOC2018-0924	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		07/24/18	Hillsdale, NJ	07/23/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101366K	GOC2018-1059	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	South Jersey Gas Company		08/23/18	Stratford, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101358K	GOC2018-1372	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	South Jersey Gas		10/30/18	Ocean City, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101359K	GOC2017-0514	Did not have valid	\$3,000		Joe's Masonry LLC	05/17/17	Haworth, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101360K	GOC2017-0931	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		McGaha Landscaping	07/18/17	Aberdeen, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS191010361K	していたつのもろ かららて	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		Acme Piling	06/08/17	Toms River, NJ	07/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101362K		Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		Bella Landscape	02/27/16	Parsippany Troy Hills, NJ	07/11/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101363K	GOC2019-0342	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		Pool Con LLC	04/16/19	Oceanport, NJ	7/15/19
Damage, None	AS19101393K	NOC2019-0004	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		Wetlands Inc.	04/30/19	Linden, NJ	7/22/19
Damage, Gas	GS19101394K	GOC2019-0132	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	New Jersey Natural Gas Company		02/13/19	Allenhurst, NJ	7/22/19

Damagen Type####	BPU Dkt No	One Call Cases No.	Type(of Violation	Penaliv	@perator	Excavator	Vojeton Dete	Description/Location (	Payment Received
B-4000014 3 D	-united section of the section of th	WOC2019-0010	Did not properly mark out		New Jersey American Water Company	<b>発化企業を表する場合の表現を含まれている。</b>	02/13/19	Millbum, NJ	07/2219
Damagers Electric	ES19101396K		Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	Jersey Central Power & Light Co.		02/05/19	Lakewood, NJ	07/22/19
THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 2 I P.	WS19101397K	WOC2019-0013	Did not properly mark out		Public Service Electric & Gas Co.		03/27/19	South Orange, NJ	07/22/19
Damone s Cas	GS19101407K	GOC2018-0699	Did not have valid mark out	\$3,000		Pistone Plumbing & Heating	06/29/18	Forked River, NJ	09/25/19
Damage Gas	GS19101426K	GOC2017-0614	Did not properly mark out	\$3,000	South Jersey Gas Company		06/12/17	Stone Harbor, NJ	10/19/18
Parnage Electrica	ES19101424K	EOC2016-0119	Failure to report damage to BPU	\$2,000	Atlantic City Electric		06/04/16	Sicklerville, NJ	10/15/19
Damage t Gas	GS19101425K		Did not have a valid mark out	\$3,000		Malco Electric Company	02/13/19	Egg Harbor Township, NJ	09/25/19
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