



Issue Update

REGULATION CHANGE FOR LOCATING GAS LINES

Last winter and this spring the BC Construction Association participated with utility companies, municipalities, WCB, BC One-Call, the BC Safety Authority and the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services in a review of current legislation regarding locating and marking underground facilities.

Two of the recommendations made by the Underground Utilities Working Group have resulted in changes to the Gas Safety Regulation under the Safety Standards Act. The purpose of these changes is to improve excavation safety.

1. As of March 1, 2005 the number of working days in which a gas company must provide an excavator with information on underground gas lines is reduced from 3 working days to 2. This will harmonize BC legislation with Alberta and Ontario, as well as international practise.
2. The phrase "in a clear and easily understood manner" is added to the requirement for gas companies to provide information to excavators. This provision comes into effect on November 1, 2004.

The amended regulation will be available through the BC Safety Authority website within two weeks at: <http://www.safetyauthority.ca/>

Further work is underway regarding the process for locating and marking underground facilities. Anyone interested in obtaining more information can call Abigail Fulton at the BCCA office: 250-475-1077 or email: abigailf@bccasn.com

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The mission of the BCCA is to provide leadership and excellence in the representation of, and service to, British Columbia's construction industry.