

Formstack Submission For: [South Dakota One Call Complaint Form](#)

Submitted at 06/29/21 4:42 PM

Complaint filed on behalf of or by:

Northwestern Energy

Contact Person:

Jason Swanson

Phone Number:

(605) 995-4423

Ext:

Name or Company Name:

Northwestern Energy

Street Address or PO Box:

300 S Burr St
Mitchell, SD 57301

Fax:

Email:

jason.swanson@northwestern.com

Date:

Jun 29, 2021

Name of excavator / facility operator:

Alliance Construction

Phone:

(605) 770-7744

Ext:

Name or Company Name:

Justin Brown

Street Address or PO Box:

5809 S Remington Pl
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Fax:

Email: justinb@alliancesf.com

Is this party aware of your allegations?: Yes

The South Dakota One Call Board expects communication to occur between both parties before filing complaints. Please provide details of who you spoke with, including the date and time, and what was discussed.:

I spoke with Justin Brown on 6/29 regarding the complaint. I spoke about not hand exposing our facilities prior to operating equipment as well as not notifying Northwestern Energy for a standby prior to excavating near a HP facility.

Statutory Violations: 20:25:03:05.03
20:25:03:10.02.

Other information to support your position:

The contractor was digging over our HP line with a large excavator to install rock for culvert drainage. Our technician happened to see the contractor working in the area of our line and stopped the contractor from digging any deeper until the line was exposed. After exposing the line it was found only 9" below the surface of the last bucket removed.

Street Address / location of alleged violation: 27220 472nd Ave
Harrisburg, SD

Date of alleged violation: Jun 09, 2021

Time of alleged violation: 02:00 PM

Describe your allegation:

Alliance construction did not notify Northwestern Energy prior to digging around a high profile facility. They did not hand expose the facilities prior to digging over the top of the line.

Do you believe the alleged violation to be intentional?: No

Why or why not?:

I feel the contractor lost site of where they were digging and forgot the gas line was below the area. They had been working in this intersection and destroyed the locate marks losing site of where the line was.

Was a locate requested from SD One Call?:

Yes

Locate ticket #:

2114715842

Start Date on Ticket:

Jun 01, 2021

Start time on ticket:

10:00 AM

Did the excavator wait until the start date / time on the ticket before commencing excavation?:

Yes

If no or not sure, when did excavation begin (date)?:

If no or not sure, when did excavation begin (time)?:

Did the excavator maintain a minimum horizontal clearance of 18 inches between a marked facility and mechanical equipment?:

No

Explain:

The high pressure gas line was not exposed prior to digging with the excavator.

Were buried facilities exposed by hand or non-invasive equipment prior to excavation?:

No

Were facilities marked?:

Yes

Was the marking complete prior to the start time on the ticket?:	Yes
Did the excavator pre-mark with white paint?:	N/A
Was the facility marked accurately (within 18 inches)?:	Yes
Did the excavator use reasonable care to maintain locate marks for the life of project?:	No
Type of facility involved:	High Pressure steel gas line
Operator of facility (if known):	Northwestern Energy
Operator address (Street or PO Box):	300 s Burr St Mitchell, SD 57301
Operator Phone:	(605) 995-4423
Depth of Cover (If unsure put N/A):	3 feet
Pressure (If none, write none):	780 PSIG
Voltage (If none, write none):	None
# of cable pairs (If none, write none):	None
Was the facility damaged?:	No

If yes, provide detail and an estimate of damage.:

Were damages on public right of way or private property?: Public

Was anyone injured as a result of facility damage?: N/A

If yes, provide detail.:

Length of hospitalization:

Were there fatalities?: No

If yes, provide detail.:

Was operator service affected? : No

If yes, provide detail (how many customers for how long).:

Was the one-call notification center immediately notified of the damage, dislocation, or disturbance?: No

If No, why not?: No damage was done to the line.

Was the operator of the facility immediately notified of the damage, dislocation, or disturbance?: Yes

If No, why not?:

Was there an escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid?:

No

If Yes, but if 911 was not called, or if you don't know, explain why.:

Please provide a Fire Department or Emergency Services incident report, if available :

Not Available

Attachment: