

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

Submitted at 06/09/22 9:44 PM

**Complaint Docket Number:** OC22-005

**Reply filed on behalf of (company name):** Halme Inc

**Contact Person:** Greg Kulseth

**Phone Number:** (605) 520-9663

**Ext:**

**Name or Company Name:** Halme Inc

**Street Address or PO Box:** 44769 SD HWY 28  
Lake Norden, SD 57248

**Fax:**

**Email:** [greg@halme-inc.com](mailto:greg@halme-inc.com)

**Date:** Jun 09, 2022

**Were you previously aware of these allegations?:** No

**Provide detail including whom you spoke with.:**

**Do you believe the statutes listed (if any) by the complainant were violated?:** Yes

**Why or why not?:** We did not report the damage. I didn't know that it needed reported, but i would of reported the damage

if i knew that it was considered damage. My foreman did not make me aware of what happened that afternoon. He was not thinking when he spliced the wire back together without informing Sid(the superintendent for northwestern in that area). I would of been made aware at the meeting at conclusion of day and would of notified Sid with northwestern. I arrived on site at the same time Sid with northwestern did. I was in full agreement with Sid and shut down our excavator. They were not attempting to cover up or hide anything from Northwestern. We have had a good working relationship with Sid and would not hide something from him or northwestern. We got it shoveled and ready for Northwestern to repair. I talked with the foreman and that crew and discussed why that was wrong and the importance of that wire they spliced. We talked about how they don't only use it for tracing the main, but also for cathodic protection in some instances.

**Do you dispute the alleged violation of SD One Call statute or rule occurred?:**

No

**If yes, what specifically do you dispute?:**

**Do you dispute the complainant's statements regarding the intentional or unintentional nature of the alleged violation?:**

Yes

**If yes, please explain.:**

We were not trying to hide nothing from Northwestern. We were already backfilling when they showed up. At the end of the day when i had met with my foreman when he would of told me about it i would of contacted Northwestern and let them know. Then we would of dug it up for them and had it ready.

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Was a locate requested from SD One Call?:</b>  | Yes          |
| <b>Locate ticket #:</b>   | 211678324    |
| <b>Start date on ticket:</b>  | Apr 28, 2022 |
| <b>Start time on ticket:</b>  | 09:45 PM     |
| <b>Copy of the locate ticket:</b>   |              |
| <b>If no, please explain why no locate request was made.:</b>   |              |
| <b>Did excavation begin before the start date / time on the ticket?:</b>  | No           |
| <b>Was a minimum horizontal clearance of 18 inches maintained between a marked facility and mechanical equipment? :</b> | N/A          |
| <b>Were buried facilities exposed by hand or non-invasive equipment prior to excavation? :</b>                          | Yes          |
| <b>Were facilities marked? :</b>  | Yes          |
| <b>Was the marking complete prior to the start time on the ticket?:</b>   | Yes          |
| <b>Was the excavation site pre-marked with white paint?:</b>  | No           |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Was the facility marked accurately (within 18 inches)?:</b>  | Yes   |
| <b>Was there reasonable care to maintain locate marks for the life of project?:</b>                           | Yes   |
| <b>Did the complainant correctly describe the type of facility involved?:</b>                                 | Yes   |
| <b>Provide details:</b>   | A gas main with tracer wire.  |
| <b>Did the complainant correctly describe the damages that resulted from the alleged violation?:</b>          | Yes   |
| <b>Provide details:</b>   | The tracer wire was damaged during sewer main installation. The gas main was not.                                       |
| <b>Was the one-call notification center immediately notified of the damage, dislocation, or disturbance?:</b> | No  |
| <b>File:</b>  |   |
| <b>If No, why not?:</b>   | I was not made aware of it.   |
| <b>Was the operator of the facility immediately notified of the damage, dislocation, or disturbance?:</b>     | No  |
| <b>If No, why not?:</b>   | I was not made aware of it. The onsite foreman didn't let me know at the time that the tracer wire became disconnected. |
|   |   |

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Was there an escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid?:</b>                     | No                           |
| <b>If Yes, but if 911 was not called, or if you don't know, explain why.:</b>                        |                              |
| <b>Did the complainant correctly describe the damages that resulted from the alleged violation?:</b> | Yes                          |
| <b>If no, provide details.:</b>  |                              |
| <b>Were damages on public right of way or private property?:</b>                                     | Public                       |
| <b>Did complainant correctly describe how operator service was affected?:</b>                        | Yes                          |
| <b>Provide Details:</b>  | The tracer wire was damaged. |
| <b>Was anyone injured as a result of facility damage?:</b>   | No                           |
| <b>If yes, provide details.:</b>   |                              |
| <b>Length of hospitalization:</b>  |                              |
| <b>Were there fatalities?:</b>   | No                           |
| <b>If yes, provide details.:</b>   |                              |
| <b>Other information regarding injuries or damages:</b>  |                              |
|  |                              |

**Describe your plans and procedures to ensure compliance with SD One Call statutes and rules.:**

We are now fully aware to contact the 811 center on all damages even if it isn't the utility itself, if it is something associated with it. Before we would just communicate straight with Sid on items pertaining to Northwestern's utilities.

**Has a complaint been filed against you in the past for SD One Call violations?:**

No

**If yes, when was it filed?:**

**Please provide any additional information to support your position.:**

We have had a good working relationship with northwestern. Many times we have contacted Sid with Northwestern about their utilities. Anything from not being sure the locates are right, to damages right after 811, and maintenance items on their utilities. We would not intentionally try to hide anything from Northwestern, and I believe Sid with Northwestern can attest to that. We have a good relationship with them and the crew that is responsible for this instance has been made aware of the importance of this not only for northwesterns utilities, but for everybody's utilities.

**Attachment Information:  
File names should not include symbols. Example:(  
\$, &, \*, %, ) etc.:**

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