# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:		
LUXURY GARDEN CENTER INC.	) )	CASE NO.
ALLEGED VIOLATION OF UNDERGROUND FACILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION ACT	)	2021-00437

#### OPENING ORDER

Luxury Garden Center Inc. (Luxury Garden Center) has been named as a party to an investigation before the Kentucky Public Service Commission (Commission) for allegedly violating the Kentucky Underground Facility Damage Prevention Act (Act).<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to KRS 278.495(2), the Commission has jurisdiction to regulate the safety of natural gas facilities in Kentucky and to enforce minimum federal pipeline safety standards. Under the Act, the Commission has authority to investigate and assess civil penalties for any violation of the Act that results in excavation damage to an underground facility used to transport natural gas or hazardous liquid subject to federal pipeline safety laws, 49 U.S.C. § 60101, *et seq.* Any person who violates any provision of the Act is subject to assessment of a civil penalty in the amount of \$250 for the first offense, no more than \$1,000 for the second offense within one year, and no more than \$3,000 for the third and any subsequent offense. Additionally, any person whose violation of the Act results in damage to an underground facility containing any flammable, toxic, corrosive,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> KRS 367.4901 through KRS 367.4917.

or hazardous material or results in the release of any flammable, toxic, corrosive, or hazardous material is subject to an additional penalty of up to \$1,000.

Following receipt of a report of excavation damage to its underground gas pipeline from an operator, Commission Staff (Staff) conducted an investigation and prepared an Incident Report, a copy of which is attached to this Order as an Appendix. In its Incident Report, Staff cites Luxury Garden Center for violation of the following provisions of the Act:

KRS 367.4911(1)(a) – Each excavator, or person responsible for an excavation, planning excavation or demolition work shall, not less than two (2) full working days nor more than ten (10) full working days prior to commencing work, notify each affected operator of the excavator's intended work and work schedule. Contacting the applicable protection notification centers shall satisfy this requirement.

KRS 367.4911(1)(b) – An excavator may commence work before the two (2) full working days provided for in paragraph (a) of this subsection have elapsed if all affected operators have notified the person that the location of all the affected operators' facilities have been marked or that they have no facilities in the area of the proposed excavation, demolition, or timber harvesting.

Based on its review of the Incident Report and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds *prima facie* evidence that Luxury Garden Center violated the Underground Facility Damage Prevention Act. The Commission further finds that a formal investigation into the excavation damage incident should be conducted.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Luxury Garden Center shall submit to the Commission, via email sent to <a href="mailto:PSCED@ky.gov">PSCED@ky.gov</a> with the case number of this proceeding in the subject line of the message, a written response to the allegations contained in the Staff Incident Report within 20 days of receipt of this Order.

- 2. Any partnership, corporation, or business entity (including a limited liability company) must be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in Kentucky, and such representation includes the filing of papers with and appearances at hearings before the Commission.
- 3. An individual may submit a response to the allegations contained in the Staff Incident Report without the representation of an attorney.
- 4. The Staff Incident Report 42892 in the Appendix to this Order is made a part of the record in this case.
- 5. Please note that notice of a hearing to be held in this matter will be mailed to Luxury Garden Center once proof of service is received by the Commission. Parties who fail to appear after service will be subject to entry of a default judgment against them.

## By the Commission

ENTERED

FEB 15 2022
rcs
KENTUCKY PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Executive Director

### **APPENDIX**

## APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2021-00437 DATED FEB 15 2022

TWENTY-FOUR PAGES TO FOLLOW

#### PIPELINE DAMAGE INVESTIGATION REPORT

**Investigation Information** 

 KY PSC Investigator(s) Eric V. Tout
 Incident ID
 42892
 Key
 7693

 Incident Date
 8/12/2020 1:05:00 PM
 Report Submitted
 9/9/2020 6:18:09 AM

#### OPERATOR INFORMATION

**Operator** Atmos Energy Corporation

**Phone** (270) 779-4849

**Incident Location** 

1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, Bowling Green

1473 Drakes Ridge Ln Bowling Green, KY 42103

Warren

Reported By Anthony Stallins

**Email** anthony.stallins@atmosenergy.

Locate Ticket Number 2008101973

#### **EXCAVATOR INFORMATION**

Name of Excavator Kerr, Lacey Organization ID 0841286

Phone 270-678-5555/270-427-6404 Email luxurygardencenter@outlook.co

Excavator Address
Luxury Garden Center Inc.

1757 W Main St Glasgow, KY 42141 **Locate Ticket Number** 

#### **Damage Report (DR) Summary**

The Operator reports that the Excavator damaged an unmarked ¾ inch gas service with a trencher. The Operator stated that the incident location was not marked due to the Excavator not waiting two days before excavating.

The DR is included as Attachment 1.

#### **DR Summary**

Excavation Within 18"		zardous uids	Type Of Equipment Used	Cost of	Amount
(Approximate Location)	Contained	Released		Damage	Billed
No 2 day wait	Yes	Yes	Mechanized / Trencher	\$500.00	\$500.00

#### **Locate Ticket (LT) Summary**

Ticket #	Valid	Initial Date	Two Day Wait Expiration	Incident Date	Early Excavation	Within Scope of Excavation
2008101973	No	08/10/20 17:52	08/12/20 17:52	08/12/20 13:05	4hrs. 47 min.	Yes

The Locate Ticket(s) is/are included as Attachment 2.

#### INVESTIGATION

A review of LT...1973 revealed that the Excavator obtained the ticket on 08/10/20 at 17:54 and began excavation on 08/12/20 at 13:05, 4hrs. 47min before the two day wait expiration date of 08/12/20 at 17:52.

On 06/28/21 an attempt to contact the Excavator at 270-427-6404 resulted in a message stating you have reached Luxury Garden Center, Lacey, wherein a message was left.

The following occurred on 06/29/21:

An attempt to contact the Excavator at 270-678-5555 resulted in a message stating you have reached Luxury Garden Center wherein a message was left.

Kevin Kerr (270-427-6509) of Luxury Garden Center stated that the area was marked and due to the markings he began to dig.

Via telephone the Operator, Atmos's Anthony Stallins stated that no markings were place prior to the damage, any markings present were placed after the damage occurred.

A call back to Mr. Kerr resulted in Mr. Kerr stating the markings were present before the damage occurred.

On 07/12/21 Mr. Stallins provided the following:

- <u>Show Compliance/Construction Order Details report:</u> Indicating the Excavator damaged an unmarked ¾ inch service, with a trencher, while landscaping and was excavating during the two day wait period. Ticket not ready until 08/12/20 at 5pm.
- <u>3 Photographs:</u> Depicting a trencher, the unmarked line and the damaged pipe. Note: On the incident date white paint was used to identify the path of the unmarked service.

#### Atmos's report and photographs are include as Attachment 3.

On 07/13/21 a follow up call to Mr. Kerr resulted in a voice message being left.

On 07/15/21, via email, Mr. Stallins stated that the Excavator paid Atmos \$499.84 for the damage associated with this incident. Mr. Stallins also provided the Invoice and the Third Party Damage Claims Recovery letter.

The Email, Invoice & Letter are include as Attachment 4.

On 07/19/21 a follow up call to Mr. Kerr resulted in a voice message stating he was out until 07/27/21 and to call 270-678-5555. A call to 270-678-5555 resulted in a voice message being left informing the forthcoming Demand Letter imposing the penalty of \$250.00 and the Damage Prevention course.

#### VIOLATION KRS 367.4911

- (1)(a) Each excavator, or person responsible for an excavation, planning excavation or demolition work shall, not less than two (2) full working days nor more than ten (10) full working days prior to commencing work, notify each affected operator of the excavator's intended work and work schedule. Contacting the applicable protection notification centers shall satisfy this requirement.
- **(b)** An excavator may commence work before the two (2) full working days provided for in paragraph (a) of this subsection have elapsed if all affected operators have notified the person that the location of all the affected operators' facilities have been marked or that they have no facilities in the area of the proposed excavation, demolition, or timber harvesting.

## # of Offences (Including this incident)

Excavator	Last Offence Incident #	Last Offence Incident Date	Revert to 1st Offence Date (Last Offence Date +365 Days)	
1 <sup>st</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	



## Gas Excavation Damage Report

## **Atmos Energy Corporation**

Submitted 9/9/2020 Incident ID: 42892 Set back to Edit Staff Edit

Print (PDFForm.aspx?Rpt=GasInvestigation&IG=42892)

#### Reported By:

Name: Anthony Stallins

Phone: (270) 779-4849

Email: anthony.stallins@atmosenergy.com

#### Gas Line Incident Occured:

8/12/2020 Date: Time: 1:05 PM

Details:

Reported Date: 8/13/2020 6:15 AM

#### Incident Location Address:

Location: 1473 DRAKES RIDGE LN, BOWLING GREEN

Address: 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln

City: **Bowling Green** 

State: KY

County: Warren 42103 Zip:

Confirm Code:

Number of Customers out:

Was gas or hazardous liquids contained in the underground facility?

Was gas or hazardous liquids released into the

3/2020

atmosphere?

Locate Request Ticket No.:

2008101973 Excavator: Contractor

V

#### **Excavator Address:**

First Name: Lacey

Last Name: Kerr

Organization ID:

Company: Luxury Garden Center and Landscaping

Phone: 270-678-5555/270-427-6404

Email: luxurygardencenter@outlook.com Address: 1757 W Main St

City: Glasgow

State: KY

**Zip:** 42141

Confirm Code: Y

Excavation Damage: One Call notification practices not

sufficient

**Description of Incident** Cut 3/4" PE Service. Locate ticket invalid. Two customers off. No injuries.

**Summary Information** 

9/9/2020

Luxury Garden Center and Landscaping, doing landscaping at 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, cut a 3/4" PE service with a trencher. Luxury Garden Center called

Full details such as the in a locate ticket (2008101973) on 8/10/20 at 5:52 PM. The ticket would be cause valid 8/12/20 at 6:00PM. Luxury Garden Center would start excavating and

cut the 3/4" PE service on 8/12/20 at 1:05 pm before the line was marked and the ticket was valid.

and the ticket was valid

Extent of the damage The damage PE was repaired and service restored to the two affected customers.

Cost of the damage \$500.00

Steps taken to prevent

re-occurance

Amount billed to excavator

Luxury Garden Centered advised that an operator has two working days excluding weekends and holidays to mark their lines. Also the date and time

a ticket is valid in noted on their locate ticket.



6/24/2021 Ticket

#### NORMAL NOTICE

Ticket: 2008101973 Date: 08/10/2020 Time: 17:52 Oper: LCARTER Chan:000

State: KY Cnty: WARREN City: BOWLING GREEN

Subdivision: OLD STONE

Address : 1473

Street : DRAKES RIDGE LN Cross 1 : VILLAGE WAY

Location: LOCATE ENTIRE LOT

:

Boundary: n 36.911792 s 36.909872 w -86.387493 e -86.384709

Work type : LANDSCAPING
Done for : BRIAN SHIRLEY

Start date: 08/12/2020 Time: 18:00 Hours notice: 48/48 Priority: NORM

Ug/Oh/Both: U Blasting: NO Emergency: N

Duration : N/A Depth: 3 FEET

Company : LUXURY GARDEN CENTER, INC Type: CONT

Co addr : 1757 W MAIN ST

City : GLASGOW State: KY Zip: 42141

Caller : TAYLOR DAVIDSON Phone: (270)678-5555

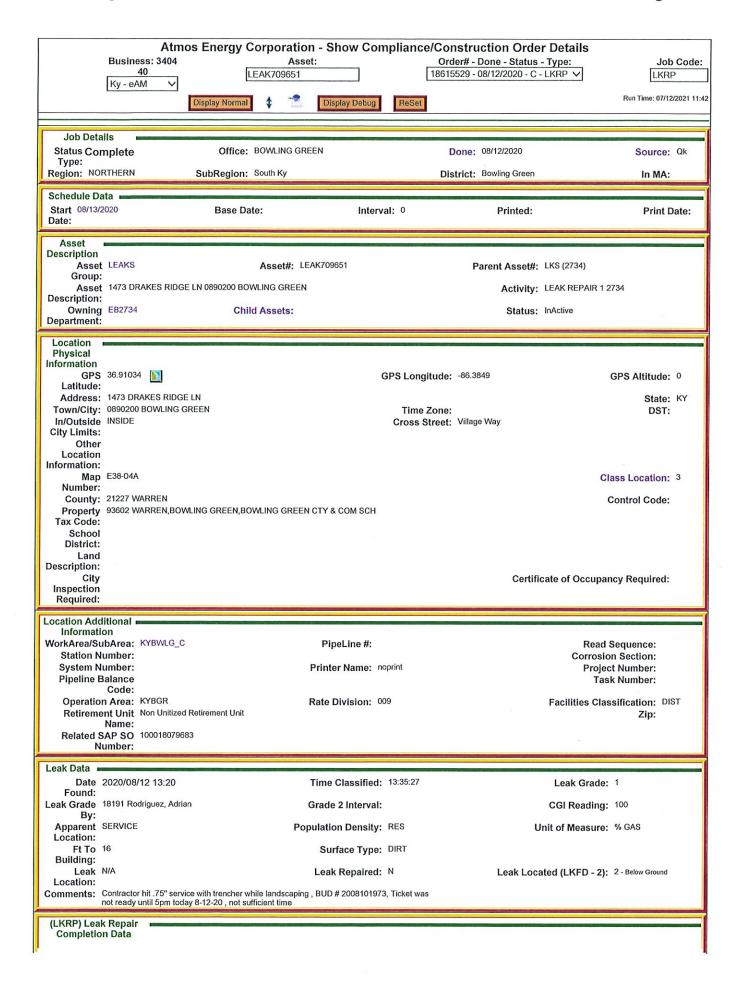
Contact : LACEY KERR - CELL Phone:

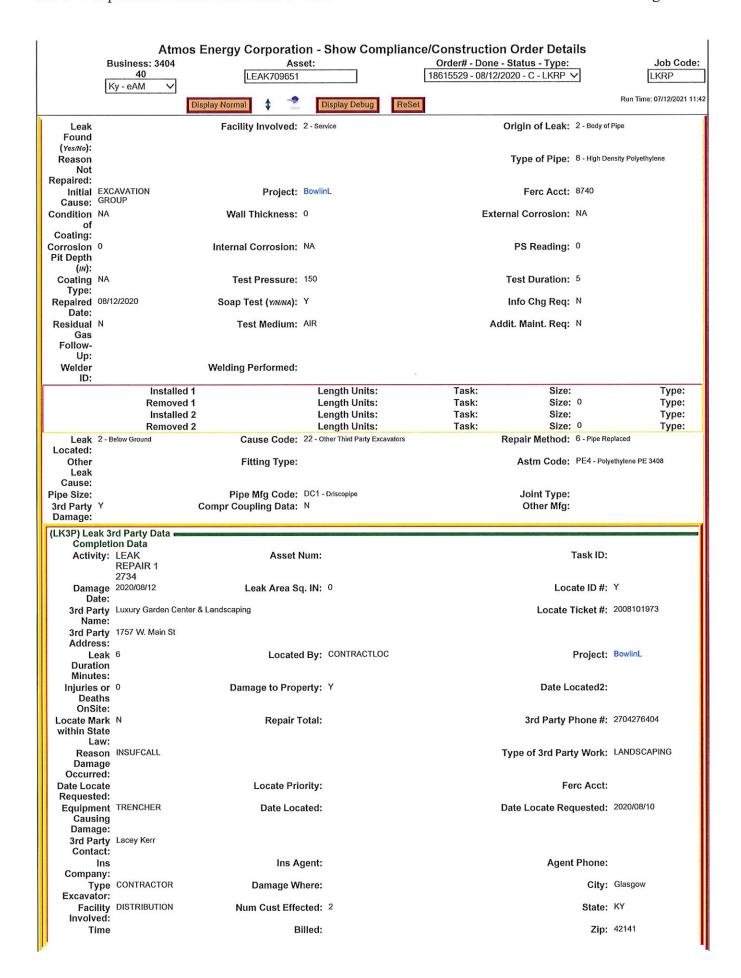
Mobile : (270)427-6404

Email : LUXURYGARDENCENTER@OUTLOOK.COM

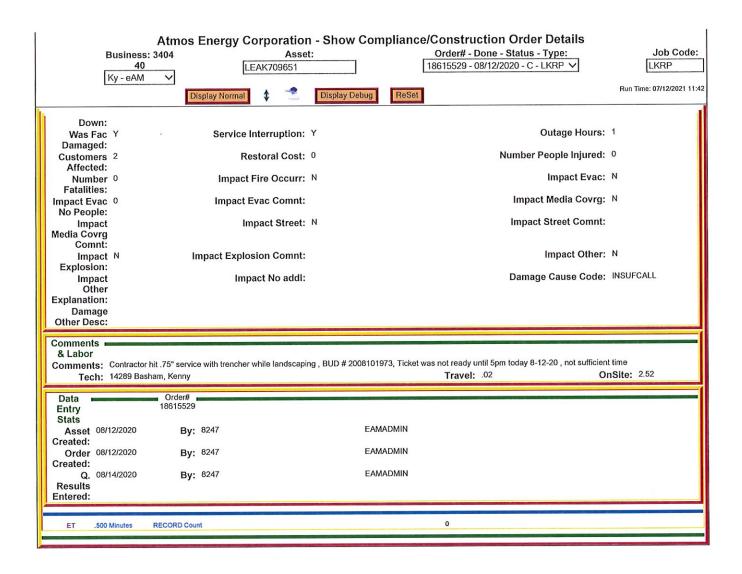
Submitted date: 08/10/2020 Time: 17:52 Members: 0125 0136 0139 0423



















#### **Tout, Eric V (PSC)**

From: Stallins, Anthony A <Anthony.Stallins@atmosenergy.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2021 12:59 PM

**To:** Tout, Eric V (PSC)

**Cc:** Stallins, Anthony A; Whitney, Lisa S

Subject: FW: [EXT] 42892, 8/12/2020, 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, Bowling Green, Luxury Garden Center

**Attachments:** 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln Invoice & Letter.pdf

\*\*CAUTION\*\* PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk <u>ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov</u> for any assistance.

Good afternoon Eric,

Shows the invoice was paid.

Thanks, Anthony

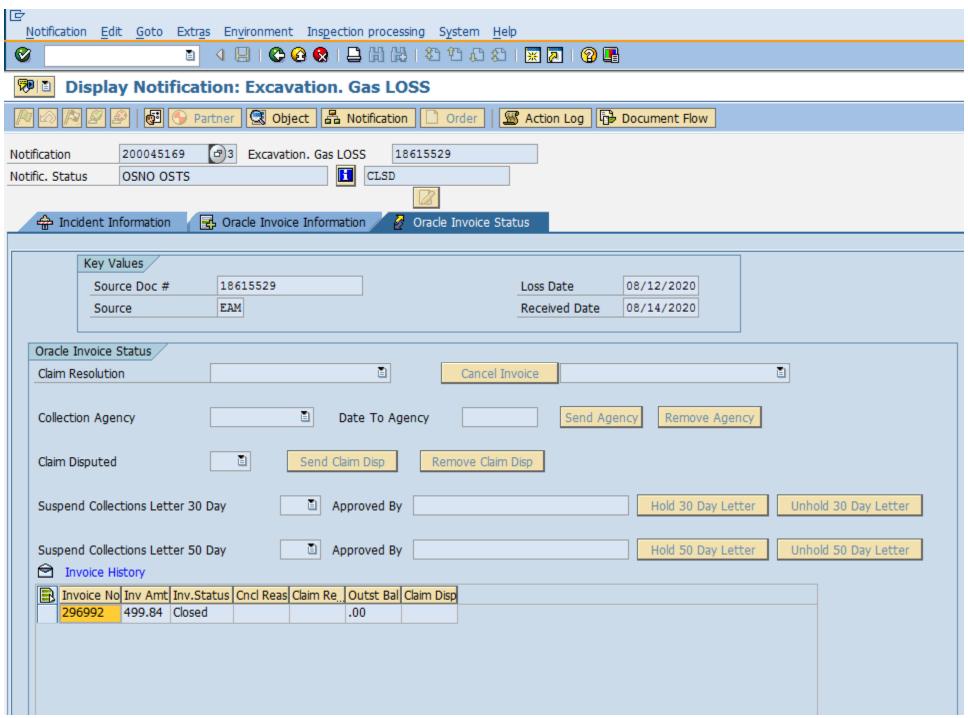
From: Whitney, Lisa S < Lisa. Whitney@atmosenergy.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 1:53 PM

To: Stallins, Anthony A <Anthony.Stallins@atmosenergy.com>

Subject: RE: [EXT] 42892, 8/12/2020, 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, Bowling Green, Luxury Garden Center

Here's what you need on this. It shows they paid it. I have also attached the invoice.



#### Lisa S Whitney

Operations Assistant Atmos Energy Corporation Kentucky-Mid-States Division 270-901-1711 Office 270-842-0228 Fax Lisa.Whitney@atmosenergy.com

From: Keen, Jan R < <u>Jan.Keen@atmosenergy.com</u>>

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 3:34 PM

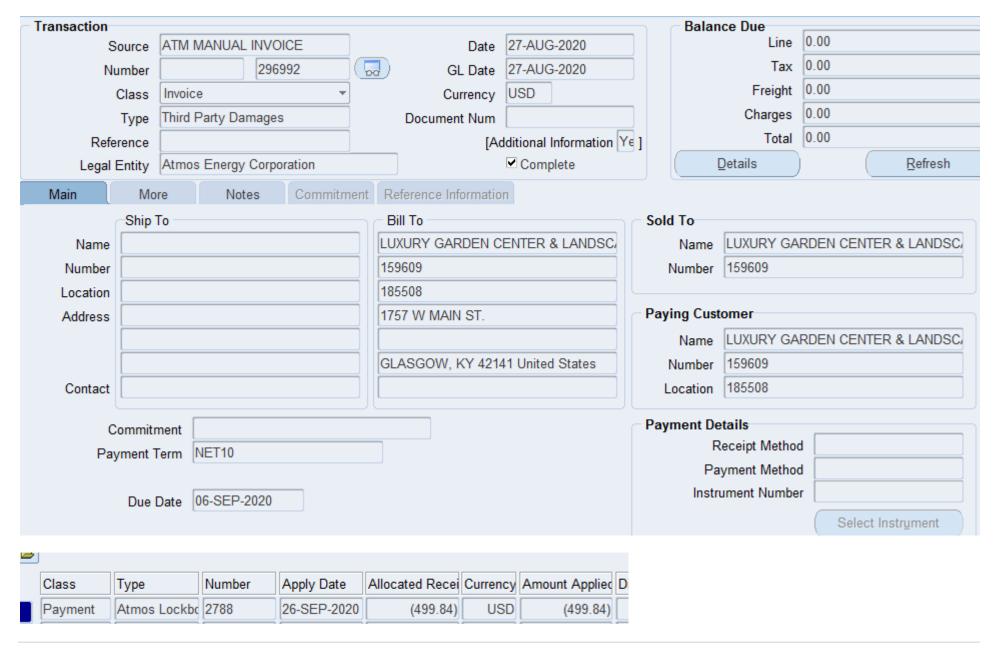
To: Stallins, Anthony A < <a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins@atmosenergy.com">Anthony A < <a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins.google.com">Anthony A < <a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins.google.co

**Cc:** Whitney, Lisa S < <u>Lisa.Whitney@atmosenergy.com</u>>; Bledsoe, Jonathon T < <u>Jonathon.Bledsoe@atmosenergy.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [EXT] 42892, 8/12/2020, 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, Bowling Green, Luxury Garden Center

Good Afternoon Anthony: Please see attachments.

Thanks, Jan



From: Stallins, Anthony A < Anthony. Stallins@atmosenergy.com>

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 1:20 PM

**To:** Keen, Jan R < <u>Jan.Keen@atmosenergy.com</u>>

Cc: Whitney, Lisa S < Lisa.Whitney@atmosenergy.com >; Bledsoe, Jonathon T < Jonathon.Bledsoe@atmosenergy.com >; Stallins, Anthony A

#### <a href="mailto:</a><a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins@atmosenergy.com">Anthony.Stallins@atmosenergy.com</a>>

Subject: FW: [EXT] 42892, 8/12/2020, 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, Bowling Green, Luxury Garden Center

From: Tout, Eric V (PSC) < <a href="mailto:ericv.tout@ky.gov">ericv.tout@ky.gov</a>>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 11:40 AM

To: Stallins, Anthony A < <a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins@atmosenergy.com">Anthony A < <a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins.">Anthony A < <a href="mailto:Anthony.Stallins.">An

Subject: [EXT] 42892, 8/12/2020, 1473 Drakes Ridge Ln, Bowling Green, Luxury Garden Center

CAUTION: Don't be quick to click. This e-mail originated from outside of Atmos Energy. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Anthony,

Please send report, photographs, billing invoice and proof of payment if damages were paid. The Excavator is saying this was marked prior to damage.

Thanks,
Eric V. Tout
Kentucky Public Services Commission
Division of Inspections / Damage Prevention
211 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601
Office: 502-782-2622
Fax: 502-564-1582

## INVOICE



2

**LUXURY GARDEN CENTER & LANDSCAPING** 1757 W MAIN ST. **GLASGOW KY 42141** 

Page:

Claim Number 000200045169 Invoice No: 296992

Invoice Date: 27-AUG-20 **Customer No:** 159609

Sales Rep: Douglas L.Bower

**Payment Terms:** Due date:

62.00

06-SEP-20

NET10

62.00

270-901-1704 For billing questions, please call: **Total Amount Due** 499.84 USD DESCRIPTION QUANTITY UNIT **UNIT AMT** NET AMT LINE Job 33.71 33.71 Material

Tools and Equipment 333.83 333.83 3 Labor 1 Job 23 3.0566 70.30 Gas Loss mcf

1

Job

**PAGE TOTAL** 499.84

Please include Remittance Slip to ensure timely application of your Payment

**CHECK REMITTANCE TO:** 

**ELECTRONIC REMITTANCE TO:** 

ATMOS ENERGY CORP P. O. BOX 841425 Dallas TX 75284-1425

ATMOS ENERGY CORP Bank of America

ACH Routing# 111000012 Bank Wire Routing# 026009593

Acct# 3756617812 Ref: 296992

**Customer No:** 

159609

Invoice No:

296992

**Total Amount Due:** 

499.84 USD

LUXURY GARDEN CENTER & LANDSCAPING 1757 W MAIN ST.

GLASGOW KY 42141

**BILL TO:** 



LUXURY GARDEN CENTER & LANDSCAPING 1757 W MAIN ST. GLASGOW KY 42141

Date of Loss:

12-AUG-20

Invoice# 296992

Damages:

\$499.84

Location of Damage:

1473 Drakes Ridge Ln Bowling Green Ky

**Description of Damage:** 

Contractor Hit 3/4" Service With Trencher Working On

Landscaping. Called 811 But Not Sufficient.

Claim #:

000200045169

Dear Sir/ Madam

The enclosed invoice is for reimbursement of damages to Atmos Energy company property. Our investigation indicates that you are responsible for the damages resulting from the incident referenced above. Payment in full of the enclosed invoice is due upon receipt. **Do not send this Payment with your gas bill.** 

You may contact me as shown below if you have any questions. Also, if you are covered by liability insurance, please ask your carrier to contact me so that any further correspondence may be handled with the adjuster. Any disputes must be submitted in writing within 10 days of the invoice date to the email or mailing address noted below.

Sincerely,

Douglas L.Bower Phone :270-901-1704

Fax:N/A

Douglas.Bower@atmosenergy.com

Para informacion en espanol, por favor llamar al 270-901-1704

2850 Russellville Rd Bowling Green KY 42101



Control Count: 1 Control Amount: \$499.84

\*Luxury Garden Center Inc. 1757 W. Main St. Glasgow, KENTUCKY 42141