

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PRECISION FLOORING & CARPENTRY, LLC	)	
	)	
_____	)	CASE NO.
	)	2019-00164
ALLEGED VIOLATION OF UNDERGROUND	)	
FACILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION ACT	)	

OPENING ORDER

Precision Flooring & Carpentry, LLC (Precision) 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,

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<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 Precision for violation of the following provision 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.

Based on its review of the Incident Report and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds *prima facie* evidence that Precision 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:

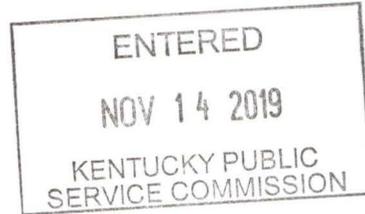
1. Precision shall submit to the Commission a written response to the allegations contained in the Staff Incident Report within 20 days of receipt of this Order.
2. Any partnership, corporation, or business entity (including a limited liability company) must be represented by an attorney licensed to practice law in Kentucky, and such representation includes the filing of papers with and appearances at hearings before the Commission.
3. The Staff Incident Report 21170 in the Appendix to this Order is made a part of the record in this case.

4. Please note that notice of a hearing to be held in this matter will be mailed to Precision 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.

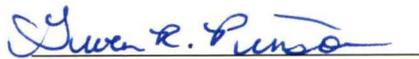
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By the Commission

Commissioner Talina Mathews did not participate in this case.



ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2019-00164 DATED **NOV 14 2019**

ONE PAGE TO FOLLOW

# PIPELINE DAMAGE INVESTIGATION REPORT

## Investigation Information

<b>KY PSC Investigator(s)</b> John Lyons	<b>Incident ID</b> 21170
<b>Incident Date</b> 11/26/2018 10:30:00 AM	<b>Report Submitted</b> 11/27/2018 11:29:00 AM

## OPERATOR INFORMATION

<b>Operator</b> Atmos Energy Corporation <b>Phone</b> (270) 779-4849 <b>Incident Location</b> 518 Creekside Dr, Shelbyville 518 Creek Side Dr Shelbyville, KY 40065  Shelby	<b>Reported By</b> Anthony Stallins <b>Email</b> anthony.stallins@atmosenergy. <b>Locate Ticket Number</b> N/A
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## EXCAVATOR INFORMATION

<b>Name of Excavator</b> Moore, Jeff <b>Phone</b> 502-938-8300 <b>Excavator Address</b> Rock Solid Foundations, LLC 409 Washington St Shelbyville, KY 40065	<b>Organization ID</b> 1005542 <b>Email</b> N/A <b>Locate Ticket Number</b>
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Operator reports that Rock Solid Foundations, working at 518 Creekside Dr in Shelbyville, hit a 3/4" PE service with a backhoe. According to Atmos' Senior Service Tech, Rock Solid Foundations was working without a locate ticket.

Investigator Lyons called the company on December 26, 2018 and talked to office assistant Suzanne. She confirmed that they had done a job at the address of the damage but that I would have to speak to Mr. Jeff Moore regarding the incident. Mr. Moore will return call. <http://www.rocksolid-ky.com/> 502-437-0056.

Investigator Lyons spoke with Mr. Moore on December 27, 2018. Mr. Moore alleged that Steve Diehl, Precision Flooring & Carpentry, LLC (active and in good standing with Secretary of State - 0851766 - 1302 Oak Street, Shelbyville, KY 40065) was supposed to take responsibility for all 811 locates; however, Mr. Moore was told that there were no facilities in the area of the excavation. Mr. Moore tried to get Mr. Diehl (502-220-8480) on a conference call to discuss the matter but was unsuccessful. Investigator Lyons relayed that it was acceptable if Mr. Diehl wanted to take responsibility for the damage but that if he did not, Rock Solid Foundations would be held responsible as the excavator.

Investigator Lyons called Mr. Diehl on December 28, 2018, and left a message for a call back.

Mr. Diehl returned call on January 2, 2019 and accepted responsibility for the incident. First time offender options were explained. A representative from Precision Flooring & Carpentry will attend the February 4, 2019, Damage Prevention training. Correct address for the company is 334 Ardmore Lane, Shelbyville, KY 40065.

### Violation(s)

KRS 365.4911(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

Steve Diehl  
Registered Agent  
334 Ardmore Lane  
Shelbyville, KENTUCKY 40065