

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION INTO)	
COMPLIANCE WITH EXCAVATOR LOCATE)	CASE NO.
REQUESTS PURSUANT TO KRS 367.4909 AND)	2022-00363
KRS 367.4917(7))	

RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST

Pursuant to Commission Order released November 16, 2022 in the above referenced case, submitted here are the responses to the requested information filed on behalf of Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ben E. Stewart
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Request a: Since January 1, 2022, the number of locate requests received in total and broken out into the types of locate requests contained in KRS 367.4909(5);

Response a:

Normal locates:	1,344
Normal locates with negotiated commitment:	0
Emergency locate:	32
Design Information Request:	0
Large project request:	0
Unmapped or untonable request:	0
Fiber-to-the-premises broadband deployment request:	0
Total Requests (sum of above):	1,376

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Request b: Since January 1, 2022, the number of second or subsequent requests for the same locate request received in total and broken out into the types of locate requests contained in KRS 367.4909(5);

Response b: (This is in addition to Response “a” above)

Normal locates:	88
Normal locates with negotiated commitment:	0
Emergency locate:	0
Design Information Request:	0
Large project request:	0
Unmapped or untonable request:	0
Fiber-to-the-premises broadband deployment request:	0
Total Requests (sum of above):	88

Request c: Since January 1, 2022, the length of time required to respond to each requestor/excavator in total and broken out into the types of locate requests contained in KRS 367.4909(5). Also, provide information showing whether underground facilities are marked within the statutory window, and the average time it takes to respond to a locate request;

Response c: Please refer to Exhibit A for length of time required to respond to each requestor/excavator.

As shown in Exhibit A, the average response times are as follows:

Locates completed on day received:	1,058	72.3%
Locates completed next day after received:	337	23.0%
Locates completed second day after received:	23	1.6%
Locates completed past second day after received:	7	0.5%
Locates Cancelled:	39	2.7%
Total Requests (sum of above):	1,464	100.0%

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Request d: Since January 1, 2022, the number of times an agreement has been reached with an excavator outside of the statutory time limits required by KRS 367.4909, with the aggregate numbers and broken out into the types of locate requests contained in KRS 367.4909(5);

Response d: Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative has not had any locate requests agreements with excavators outside of the statutory time limits.

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Request e: Since January 1, 2022, state whether locate requests have been performed by Utility personnel or by a third-party contractor. If the answer is both, provide the number of locate requests performed by Utility personnel and third-party contractors, respectively;

Response e: All 1,464 locate requests were performed by Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative personnel.

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Request f: State whether records and statistics are kept of the number of underground facilities located accurately versus inaccurately. Provide all records and statistics compiled since January 1, 2022;

Response f: Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative keeps records of all locates and all our locates are accurate; therefore, there are no statistics kept on accurate versus inaccurate locates.

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Request g: Explain the method used to determine whether an underground facility has been located accurately versus inaccurately;

Response g: Not applicable. Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative does not have inaccurate locates.

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Request h: State what policies and procedures have been implemented to reduce the number of inaccurately located facilities. Provide information detailing the efficacy of those procedures on reducing the number of inaccurately located underground facilities.

Response h: All the fiber optic cable Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative uses in its plant has a metallic sheath and thus can be located. Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative uses up to date locating equipment which can locate our cables very accurately including the depth of the cable.