

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 Gearheart Communications dba Coalfields Telephone Company and InterMountain Cable, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Heather M. Gearheart

Heather M. Gearheart, General Counsel  
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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:	634
Normal locates with negotiated commitment:	0
Emergency locate:	17
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):	651

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: In addition to the requests provided in response a, the company had 18 second or subsequent requests all categorized as normal.

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: Locate requests are found in Exhibit A.

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

- Normal locates – 2.5 days
- Emergency locates – same day

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: Not applicable. No such agreement was made.

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 locates are performed by third-party contractors.

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: No such records are kept.

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

Response g: While the company has no record of an inaccurate locate in 2022, historically such inaccuracies would be identified by a cable cut and service interruption.

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: Locate accuracy is aided by the installation of metallic cable and service drops. No underground facilities, including fiber, are deployed in conduit or direct buried that are unlocatable.