

May 9, 2024

The Honorable Terry Rice The Honorable Jeff Wardlaw Arkansas Legislative Council 1 Capitol Mall Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Quarterly Report – Arkansas Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act

Dear Co-Chairs Rice and Wardlaw:

In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated § 14-271-104(g), I submit this quarterly report for review by the Arkansas Legislative Council. This report covers the period from January 1, 2024, through March 31, 2024.

Act 309 of 2023, which amended the Arkansas Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Act (the "AUFDPA"), was enacted with an emergency clause on March 24, 2023. That legislation requires, among other things that my office report (1) the number of complaints submitted under the AUFDPA; (2) the number of the submitted complaints that were settled or prosecuted; and (3) the amount of fines collected during the previous quarter.

From January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024, my office mailed 40 letters to excavators notifying them that my office received complaints that they violated the AUFDPA. In these letters, I requested that they voluntarily undergo training in underground facilities damage prevention offered by the One Call Center as required by the AUFDPA. From January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024, the One Call Center has confirmed that 31 excavators have completed the training. My office continues to follow up with the excavators that have not completed the training or that have not responded to the letters. During this quarter, my office continued its investigations of excavators with multiple alleged violations of the AUFDPA. Those investigations are ongoing, and we have not collected any fines.

Finally, from January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024, my office has received 49 complaints against excavators, compared to the 77 complaints in the prior quarter. We have also received eight complaints against companies, which allege that they did not timely mark underground facilities. My office will continue to work closely with the One Call Center to ensure that we are putting forth our best effort to enforce the AUFDPA.

The Honorable Terry Rice The Honorable Jeff Wardlaw Arkansas Legislative Council May 2, 2024 Page 2

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (501) 837-5190. With best regards, I am

Very truly yours

Tim Griffin

CC: Scott Bowman, Chief Executive Officer, Arkansas One Call Center (811)
Danni Hoefer, Chief of Staff, Arkansas Public Service Commission
Michael Marchand, Executive Director, Arkansas Public Service Commission
Jason Donham, Pipeline Safety Program Manager, Arkansas Public Service Commission