**2012 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Progress Report**

**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** DTPH56-12-G-PHPS10

**Project Title:** Michigan Public Service Commission State Damage Prevention

**Date Submitted:** March 1, 2013

**Submitted by:** David Chislea

**Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement**

Under this grant agreement, the MPSC will:

* Foster support and partnership with stakeholders
* Support a Damage Prevention Education Program for industry stakeholders
* Support a Public Awareness and Stakeholder Education; and
* Review the effectiveness of Damage Prevention Programs.

**Workscope**

Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 USC $60135 through the actions it has specified in its Application.

* Element (2): A process for fostering and ensuring the support and partnership of stakeholders, including excavators, operators, locators, designers, and local government in all phases of the program.
* Element (4): Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of effective employee training programs to ensure that operators, the one call center, the enforcing agency, and the excavators have partnered to design and implement training for the employees of operators, excavators, and locators.
* Element (5): A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities.
* Element (9): A process for review and analysis of the effectiveness of each program element, including a means for implementing improvements identified by such program reviews.

**Accomplishments for this period (Item 1 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: “A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.**”)

Element (2):

* The Damage Prevention Coordinator is supporting all existing and new Damage Prevention Associations (DPA). The Damage Prevention Coordinator has been working with the DPA’s since August 28, 2012 to implement a statewide damage prevention organizational structure and expanding the DPA’s.
* The Damage Prevention Coordinator is fostering increased municipal memberships by outreaching to municipalities and universities that are not currently on the MISS DIG System; this effort is to educate those organizations on the benefits of participating. This is improving damage prevention communication with a goal of reducing damages to facilities and preventing injury.
* Funding will assist the Damage Prevention Coordinator with the outreach efforts to gathering line operators. MISS DIG has began to reach out to others listed as 'targets' for this objective. They are currently working with contacts in the pipeline industry to get a listing of gathering line operators. After receiving a list of operators and the lines they are operating, MISS DIG will be able to target the lines that are not currently being protected by the gathering line operators.

Element (4):

* The funding provides additional support to the Damage Prevention Associations efforts at educating stakeholders. Funding will provide support for the Excavator's Seminars efforts at educating stakeholders. The Damage Prevention Coordinator has coordinated workshops and toolbox talks. For the grant period, the goal was to conduct between 10 and 15 seminars. However, by bringing meetings to work sites and offices, the Damage Prevention Coordinator has been able to speak at 14 workshops / toolbox talks with an audience of over 390 people. This reduced cost by using the attendees’ locations as the venue and will allow the Damage Prevention Coordinator to host many more workshops and toolbox talks during the remainder of the grant. Educational items are being purchased for future excavator seminars.
* The Damage Prevention Coordinator has also participated in two trade expos, which allowed for the education of the farming community and do it yourselfers.
* Funding will help in the development of a DVD to clearly show the proper method for learning the exact location of underground facilities. The DVD’s have not been produced yet but this will be addressed in the second half of the grant period.

Element (5):

* Efforts for the Public Education Portion of this grant will be completed in early spring when billboard public awareness efforts will be most effective.

Element (9):

* MISS DIG has made contact with a research company to discuss conducting the MISS DIG Communication Evaluation Survey. The project is expected to take 9 weeks to complete, and will contain approximately 18 questions.

**Quantifiable Metrics/Measures of Effectiveness (Item 2 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “Where the output of the project can be quantified, a computation of the cost per unit of output.”)**

Element (2):

The program supports the Statewide Damage Prevention Coordinator’s educational activities including travel expenses. Personnel expenditures for the Statewide Damage Prevention Coordinator from August 28, 2012 to January 31, 2013 totals $19,655.49. This equates to 56% completion of the project objectives.

Element (4):

The supplies, materials and equipment expenditures to support the workshops/ toolbox talks from August 28, 2012 to January 31, 2013 totals $2,839.33. This equates to 8% completion of the project objectives.

Element (5):

No expenditures have been spent for this project.

Element (9):

No expenditures have been spent for this project.

**Issues, Problems or Challenges (Item 3 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “The reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met. “)**

Element (2):

No slippage.

Element (4):

The development of a DVD to show the proper method for learning the exact location of underground facilities has not yet taken place. MISS DIG is still looking for a vendor capable to produce the Hand Exposing DVD within budget. All vendors MISS DIG has discussed the project with charge significantly more than the grant budget for the DVD production. A new format called impact videos is being considered. MISS DIG had a meeting scheduled with venders in January to discuss the product and if it is the correct application for this DVD.

Element (5):

With the timing of the beginning of the grant period being at the end of the dig season, no funds have been used for the billboard education campaign. While this may show as a delay in the percentage of completion, it is believed that a greater impact will be seen with a billboard campaign in early spring as the dig season begins.

Element (9):

No slippage.

**Mid-term Financial Status Report**

The Mid-term Financial Status report includes the attached “Financial Status Report and/or Payment Request” form which depicts the expenditures as of January 31, 2013. Also see attached the Damage Prevention Coordinator’s monthly activity report for August through December 2012 and supporting documents.

The Mid-term Financial Status report also includes the attached Federal Financial Report (SF-425). This document depicts the status of funds and the breakdown of costs for each object class category.

**Plans for Next Period (Remainder of Grant)**

The majority of the project will take place in the next four months. This will include several Excavators’ Seminars/Workshops around the State of Michigan including different speakers and presentations. The billboard education campaign will begin in spring 2013. MISS DIG will continue to work with venders to produce the Hand Exposing DVD.

**Requests of the AOTR and/or PHMSA**

No actions requested at this time.