**2013 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Progress Report**

**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** *DTPH56-13-G-PHPS12*

**Project Title:** *New Jersey Board of Public Utilities State Damage Prevention Grant*

**Date Submitted:** *April 30, 2014*

**Submitted by:** *Michael Stonack*

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

*Under this grant agreement, the NJBPU will:*

*Support Public Awareness and Stakeholder Education*

**Workscope**

*Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 U.S.C. §60134 (b) through the actions it has specified in its Application.*

*****Element 5 (Public Education):*** *A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities.*

**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.**”)

*Project 2: Under Project 2 of the 2013 State Damage Prevention (“SDP”) Program Grant, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“NJBPU”) has enhanced the New Jersey Damage Prevention Program by increasing damage prevention public awareness in a significant area of the State. This project deals with Element 5 of the NJ Damage Prevention Program. The NJBPU Bureau of Pipeline Safety (“BPS”) proposed to install damage prevention awareness logos on LNG tanks, oil tanks, billboards, bridge crossings, and / or other suitable structures located along major highway and railroad corridors in northern and southern New Jersey.*

*The BPS met with stakeholders including the NJ Common Ground Alliance, NJ One Call, NJ utility and transmission operators, and NJ excavators to define the specificity of sites and locations where the 811 / Call Before You Dig logos could be placed. The installation of two (2) high visibility damage prevention billboard logos in Long Branch, Monmouth County, NJ, was finalized on March 10, 2014. The billboards are 10.5 feet in height by 22.5 feet in length. The billboards are located along State Highway Route 36 (see attached map), a major east / west thoroughfare to and from the beaches along the northern part of the New Jersey shore. One billboard was placed for visibility by eastbound traffic and the other by westbound traffic. The billboards are in an area that was identified as having high excavation damage activity due to no calls. A photo of the eastbound billboard logo installation has been included with this progress report.*

*Additional sites and locations where the 811 / Call Before You Dig logos could be placed are currently being negotiated. These are primarily billboard locations with similar dimensions, 10.5 feet in height by 22.5 feet in length.*

**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.”)**

*Project 2: The NJBPU Bureau of Pipeline Safety (“BPS”) installation of damage prevention awareness logos on the billboards has been an effective and successful approach to communicating the use and importance of 811 / Call Before You Dig. Data will be gathered in 2014 to measure its overall effectiveness as it is too soon to determine the impact. The billboard logo placed for visibility by eastbound traffic along State Highway Route 36 in Long Branch, NJ, averages 59,450 traffic viewings per week based on traffic counts and the other billboard logo averages 78,000 traffic viewings per week by westbound traffic. One measure of effectiveness that we will attempt to assess will be the reduction in area damages that can be attributed to call activity.*

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

*Project 1: The established objectives for the Damage Prevention Mobile Exhibit* *have not been met as of this report due to a delay in State authorization to move forward with this project.*

*The NJBPU proposed the fabrication and use of an interactive underground damage prevention mobile exhibit utilizing a mobile trailer. It is likely that the NJBPU will need to request a modification or change to the objectives of Project 1as a result of an inability to acquire a mobile trailer. A decision regarding Project 1 will be made within the next month.*

*Project 2: There are no issues.*

**Mid-term Financial Status Report**

*See Form SF-425, Federal Financial Report, submitted by PI on April 30, 2014.*

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

*Project 1: As mentioned above under Issues, Problems, or Challenges, it is likely that the NJBPU will need to request a modification or change to the objectives of Project 1as a result of an inability to move forward with the intent of this project.*

*Project 2: The NJBPU planned to spend $48,000 on these logo installations to increase damage prevention awareness across the State of New Jersey. To date, $6,650 has been expended. Additional damage prevention awareness logo installations on LNG tanks, oil tanks, billboards, bridge crossings, and / or other suitable structures located along major highway and railroad corridors in the State are being negotiated.*

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

*The NJBPU may request a modification or change to the objectives of Project 1. A decision regarding Project 1 will be made within the next month* and the PI will submit a request letter to the Grant Officer (GO), if a modification or change is necessary.