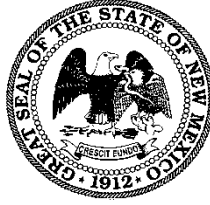


NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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NEWS RELEASE

PRC Designates April 'Safe Digging Month'

SANTA FE – New Mexico Public Regulation Commissioners signed a resolution designating April as Safe Digging Month within the state of New Mexico at their public meeting Wednesday, March 30. The resolution won the full support of all five commissioners.

The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission's (NMPRC) Pipeline Safety Bureau is an active proponent of NM 811, a public service that aims to prevent injury to persons and destruction of property caused by accidents resulting from damage to pipelines, underground utility lines, cable television lines and related facilities by excavating and blasting. 811 is a federally-mandated FCC-designated N-11 number to eliminate confusion of multiple numbers.

One easy phone call to 811 a few days before digging quickly begins the process of getting underground utility lines marked for free and prevents underground utility damage.

By signing Resolution 03-30-2016, the Commission is officially recognizing April as National Safe Digging Month to promote safe excavation activities in New Mexico, and falls in line with the National Association of Regulated Utility Commissioners' (NARUC) encouragement of the promotion of April as National Safe Digging Month.

The U.S. Department of Transportation and the Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration have long promoted the national 811, Call Before You Dig, service.

"This resolution brings a huge significance and awareness in my strong belief in public safety," Chair Valerie Espinoza stated. "I'm grateful for the seamless processes between the Pipeline Safety Bureau and NM811 as we continue to collaborate in our efforts to ensure safety through the prevention of injury to people and damage to their property."

"This time of year, many residents in Albuquerque and throughout New Mexico will begin planting vegetation and making home improvements to their properties, which could put them in danger anytime they break ground," stated Vice Chair Karen Montoya, representing District 1 (Albuquerque). "It is extremely important for residents to dial 811 statewide a few days before beginning their projects. It's smart, it's safe and it's the law."

About the NMPRC

The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal's Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, N.M., and the Pipeline Safety Bureau.

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