

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES press release

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New Jersey Receives Perfect Score from USDOT on Pipeline Safety

Trenton, NJ- New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) President Joseph L. Fiordaliso is pleased to announce today that New Jersey has received a perfect score from the federal government on an evaluation of the state's enforcement of its excavation damage prevention law.

Recently, a representative of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administrations (PHMSA) conducted an adequacy evaluation of New Jersey's enforcement of its excavation damage prevention law. The NJBPU is happy to report that based on the active prevention practices promoted by the NJBPU and used throughout the state, New Jersey received a perfect score on the evaluation.

"I am so pleased to announce this achievement for the NJBPU and the Murphy Administration," said NJBPU President Joseph L. Fiordaliso. "Our team here at the NJBPU works very hard to enforce this law and ensure that we are doing all we can to protect our pipelines and keep New Jersey residents safe."

The NJBPU's Reliability and Security Division maintains a satellite office in the "One-Call" center which gives them the ability to have real-time awareness and notification of locator delays, emergencies, and any other potential risks that may arise.

Damages due to excavation is one of the leading causes of hazardous liquid and natural gas pipeline cases that result in fatalities, serious injuries, and damage to the environment. This is why active damage prevention is extremely important.

If you are looking to dig, even on your own property, make sure you follow these steps:

- Call 811 at least three full business days before each project to have underground pipes, wires and all underground facilities located. Underground facility operators will place color coded markers or paint where facilities are buried.
- National Dig Safe Month is to heighten awareness to promote excavation safety for all.

- Call 811 before digging, it's the law!
- Visit <u>www.call811.com</u> for complete information

For more information of pipeline safety in New Jersey visit: https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/StatePages/NewJersey.htm

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About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)

The NJBPU is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight and responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents.

To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at <u>www.nj.gov/bpu</u>.

About the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP)

NJCEP, established on January 22, 2003, in accordance with the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA), provides financial and other incentives to the State's residential customers, businesses and schools that install high-efficiency or renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing energy usage, lowering customers' energy bills and reducing environmental impacts. The program is authorized and overseen by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU), and its website is <u>www.NJCleanEnergy.com</u>.