



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 16, 2020

Via Email

Mr. Todd Hiatt
Chairman
Oklahoma Corporation Commission
2101 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Chairman Hiatt:

On August 18, 2020, a representative of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) conducted an evaluation of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's enforcement of the Oklahoma State excavation damage prevention law. PHMSA conducted this evaluation pursuant to 49 United States Code § 60114 and 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 198, Subpart D—State Damage Prevention Enforcement Programs. Based on this evaluation, PHMSA has determined that the enforcement of the Oklahoma excavation damage prevention law is "adequate."

PHMSA appreciates your dedication to safety. As you are aware, excavation damage continues to be a leading cause of pipeline failures, some of which have resulted in fatalities, serious injuries, and environmental damage. Nationwide statistics show that effective enforcement of state damage prevention laws reduces excavation damage and pipeline incidents, resulting in enhanced public safety.

Should you or your staff have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. David Appelbaum, PHMSA State Evaluator, at (202) 617-6329 or by email at David.Appelbaum@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Massoud Tahamtani", with a long, sweeping underline.

Massoud Tahamtani
Deputy Associate Administrator, Policy and Programs
Office of Pipeline Safety

cc: Dennis Fothergill, Regulatory Program Manager, Pipeline Safety Department
Oklahoma Corporation Commission