



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 27, 2023

Via E-mail

Mr. Doug P. Scott
Chairman
Illinois Commerce Commission
160 N. LaSalle Street, Suite C-800
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Chairman Scott:

On September 19, 2023, a representative of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) conducted an evaluation of the Illinois Commerce Commission and the City of Chicago's enforcement of the Illinois excavation damage prevention law. PHMSA conducted this evaluation pursuant to 49 United States Code (USC) § 60114 and 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 198, Subpart D—State Damage Prevention Enforcement Programs. Based on this evaluation, PHMSA has determined that the enforcement of the Illinois excavation damage prevention law is “adequate.”

PHMSA appreciates your dedication to pipeline safety. As you are aware, excavation damage continues to be a leading cause of pipeline failures, some of which result 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 "Zach Barrett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Zach Barrett
Director, State Programs Division

cc: Mr. Matthew Smith, Assistant Director, Safety & Reliability Division,
Illinois Commerce Commission
Mr. Matthew Peterson, Principal Operations Analyst,
Chicago Department of Transportation