



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 18, 2023

Via Email

Ms. Christine Guhl-Sadovy  
President  
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Dear President Guhl-Sadovy:

On October 16, 2023, a representative of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) conducted an evaluation of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' enforcement of the New Jersey State 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 New Jersey 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 David Appelbaum, PHMSA State Evaluator, at (202) 617-6329 or by email at [david.appelbaum@dot.gov](mailto:david.appelbaum@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Zach Barrett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Zach Barrett  
Director, State Programs

cc: Mr. Juan Urena, Bureau Chief, Pipeline Safety, Division of Reliability & Security, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities