

PART 503 SAFETY

SUBPART A – ENGINEERING ACTIVITIES EFFECTING UTILITIES

WA503.7 State Policy for NEM 503 Compliance

A. Definitions:

- (1) Public Utility - A public utility is a business that furnishes an everyday necessity to the public at large. Typical services are electricity, gas, water, telephone, flood control and other essential services. Utilities may be publicly or privately owned, but most are operated as private businesses.
- (2) Private Utility - A private utility is furnished by a private landowner/operator that meets essential needs for agricultural purposes. Typical private utilities may include farm field drains, irrigation pipes, wells and other essential services provided by the landowner.
- (3) Landowner – The individual that has day to day control of the land either through ownership or lease.

B. All ground disturbing engineering practice construction plans or construction specifications shall have the following statement placed on the front or cover page:

“Before you dig call the One Call Utility Notification Center at 811 or 1-800-424-5555 or visit www.callbeforeyoudig.org a minimum of two business days prior to construction. It’s the Law.”

“NRCS makes no representation as to the existence or nonexistence of any utility, public and/or private, buried or overhead, except as shown on the drawings. Where utilities are shown on the drawings, the location, depth and/or height are approximate. The exact location, depth and/or height must be determined by the utility company and/or the land owner prior to any construction within the project vicinity.”

C. NRCS shall develop the minimum requirements for identifying all Private Utilities within the project vicinity. Failure of the customer to adequately identify Private utilities will result in termination of NRCS technical assistance.

D. Prior to construction the Landowner is required to provide to NRCS, in writing, a statement that all public and private utilities have been identified and marked throughout the project vicinity as shown on the approved NRCS construction plans. Appendix A “Landowner Utility Verification Certification” shall be utilized to document the landowners verification.

