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Personal Safety Stewardship Protocol

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1.0 Purpose

This protocol defines Ovintiv’s minimum standards and expectations for ground disturbance at all Ovintiv field worksites.

2.0 Scope

Ground disturbance is defined as any work, operation, or activity that results in a disturbance of the earth. Ground disturbance activities can include, but are not limited to excavating, digging, trenching, rig anchor installation, drilling, boring/tunneling, auguring, blasting, topsoil stripping, land leveling, clearing, driving a ground rod, fencing, and hydrovac excavating.

Specific activities that are not considered ground disturbance include ground penetration less than the depth required by local state or province One-Call requirements. The scope of this procedure is limited to ground disturbance conducted on Ovintiv locations or on behalf of Ovintiv. Local regulations may supersede this document.

3.0 Requirements

The relationship between the terms search area, verification zone, and tolerance zone is graphically depicted below. These terms are used throughout this document.

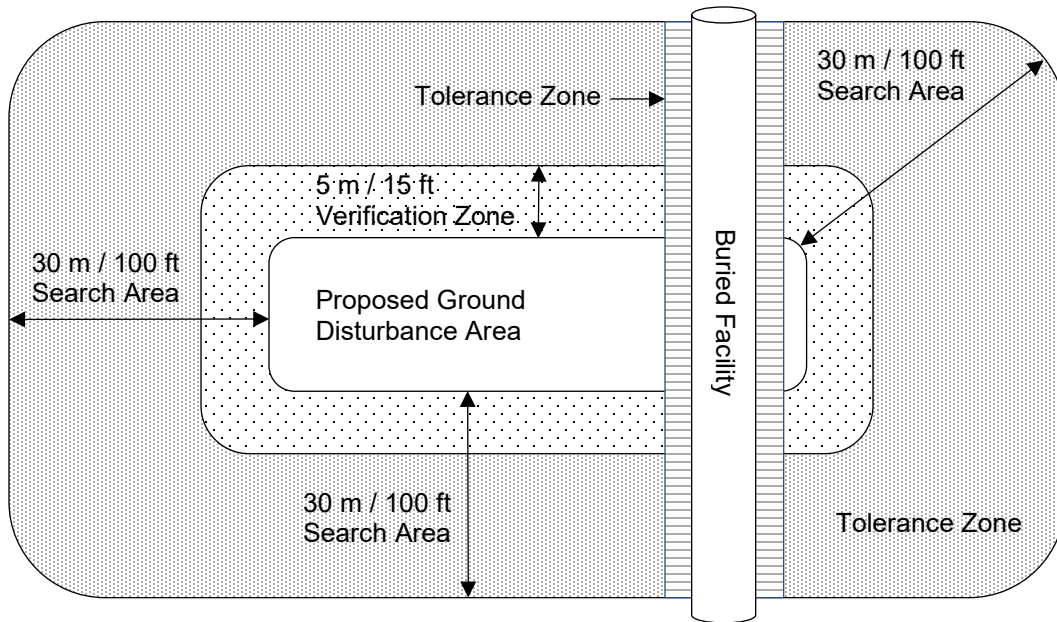


Figure 1: Search Area, Verification Zone, and Tolerance Zone

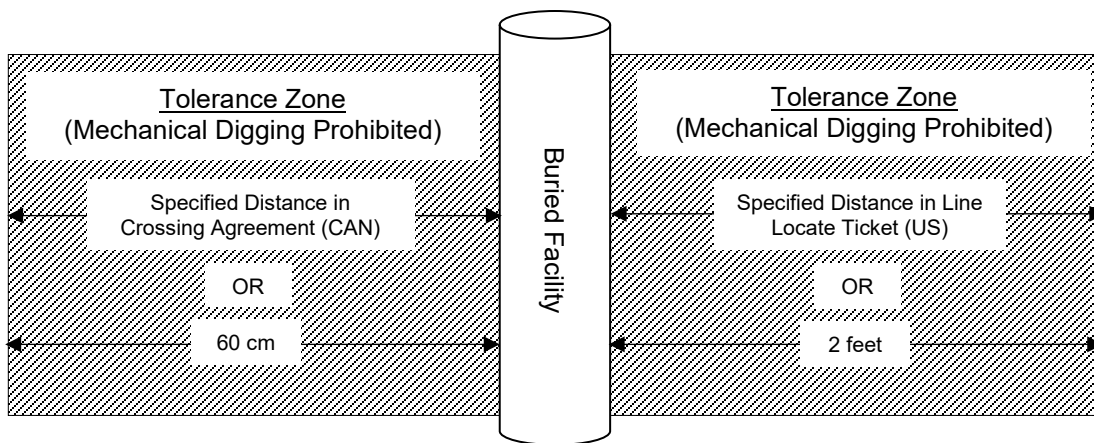


Figure 2: Tolerance Zone

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3.1 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1.1 Service Providers

The Ovintiv service provider performing ground disturbance activities shall:

- Submit a One-Call locate request for the proposed ground disturbance activity.
- Seek clarification concerning any Ovintiv practice through its Ovintiv representative.
- Initiate work only after an Ovintiv Ground Disturbance Authorization Form has been completed and approved by the Ovintiv ground disturbance supervisor.
- Ensure all service provider staff involved in ground disturbance activities have completed the Ovintiv Ground Disturbance Orientation prior to the initiation of ground disturbance activities.
- Ensure internal competency requirements are established and followed for equipment operators and spotters.

3.1.2 Equipment Operator

The equipment operator performing ground disturbance activities shall:

- Adhere to the specified requirements and limitations of the established tolerance zone.
- Use a competent spotter when performing ground disturbance in the verification zone and maintain continuous communication with the spotter.
- Perform hand digging or hydrovacating prior to mechanical excavation in any verification zone and perform hand digging or hydrovacating **ONLY** within a tolerance zone.
- Work within the conditions of the Ground Disturbance Authorization Form.
- **STOP WORK** and immediately contact the Ovintiv site representative upon any buried facility being contacted, or if an unidentified buried facility is encountered, **AND** that all work will remain stopped until a new Ground Disturbance Authorization is completed.
- Understand and comply with the locate ticket information provided.
- Ensure exposed buried facilities are properly supported.

3.1.3 Spotter

A spotter must be used any time mechanical excavation is taking place within 5 meters or 15 feet of a verified buried facility. The spotter shall:

- Establish a mutually understood method of communication with the equipment operator and maintain continuous communication with the equipment operator.
- Prevent mechanical excavation equipment from coming within the tolerance zone.
- Signal the equipment operator to immediately stop excavation activities in the event a buried facility is spotted or suspected.

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- Signal the equipment operator to immediately stop excavation activities and shut down all equipment in the event contact with a buried facility occurs or is suspected.

3.2 Program Requirements

3.2.1 One-Call Buried Facility Locates: Call Before You Dig!

Before initiating ground disturbance activities, a facility locate shall be requested from the One-Call center specific to the state/province where the work is to be conducted. Facility locates shall be in accordance with state/province advance notice requirements. See [Appendix A](#) for the American Public Works Association's uniform colour code for marking buried facilities.

- If multiple service providers are supervising ground disturbance work at a single Ovintiv location, each service provider shall be responsible for ensuring locates are performed for its specific ground disturbance work.
- When a known One-Call program participant has not responded to the locate request, the Ovintiv ground disturbance supervisor shall ensure notification of the One-Call center and that a second locate is requested. If no response is received after a second locate request, the service provider or Ovintiv ground disturbance supervisor must request escalated One-Call center assistance.
- There are some buried facility owners that do not receive notification (i.e., a locate ticket) of planned ground disturbance from the One-Call centers. Contact information for some of these owners is maintained by the One-Call centers. Notification shall be made to these owners and any other owners where information is available, of the planned ground disturbance.

3.2.2 Site Walkover

A site walkover shall be completed by the ground disturbance supervisor (Ovintiv worker or service provider) prior to commencement of ground disturbance activities. At a minimum, the site walkover must include:

- Assessment of:
 - Buried facility markers.
 - Disturbed or settling soils.
 - Patched asphalt or concrete.
 - Service risers (e.g., gas and electric).
 - Changes in vegetation.
 - Locations where facility service lines enter buildings.
- Additional precautionary measures, such as the additional risk controls listed in the corresponding question on the Ground Disturbance Authorization Form, if one encounters an anomaly in the information collected.

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3.2.3 Exposing and Verifying Facilities

If an identified buried facility crosses or passes within a verification zone, the depth and direction of the buried facility must be identified through hand digging or hydrovacating prior to initiating any mechanical ground disturbance work.

The location, depth, and direction of the facility must be verified by the following methods:

- The location of hand digging or hydrovac excavation utilized to expose the buried facility within a verification zone should be where the suspected or marked buried facility converges with or passes closest to the area of ground to be disturbed. Mechanical digging must not be used to expose a marked or suspected buried facility within its tolerance zone. Hydrovacating is the preferred means of exposing buried facilities.
- For ground disturbance that parallels an existing buried facility, the required exposure intervals should be included in the buried facility owner's approval or on the locate ticket. If the exposure intervals are not specified by the buried facility owner, the buried facility must be exposed at sufficient intervals within the verification zone to verify the location, depth, and direction of the buried facility.
- Hand digging should not include aggressive use or forcible hammering of tools in a manner that could damage a buried facility.

The minimum size of Ovintiv's verification zone is 5 meters or 15 feet.

4.0 Training and Competency

4.1 Service Providers

- All Ovintiv service providers involved in ground disturbance shall complete the Ovintiv Ground Disturbance Orientation prior to beginning ground disturbance activities.
 - Ovintiv's Ground Disturbance Orientation is available through the online training tool in ISNetworld. This method is used to track the assignment and completion of the Ground Disturbance Orientation and allow for rapid update and management of the program. This method also allows Ovintiv's employees to verify compliance in the field.
- Ensure internal competency requirements are established and followed for equipment operators and spotters.

4.2 Line Locator

Service providers providing line locator services for Ovintiv shall complete third-party buried facility locator training incorporating the following objectives:

- Proficiency in interpreting measurement data.
- Proficiency in calibration and operation of locating equipment.
- Proficiency in properly marking located lines.
- Knowledge of operating principles and troubleshooting techniques for locating equipment

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These requirements can be met in Canada through Energy Safety Canada Buried Facility Locator course.

5.0 References

Owner	Name
Alberta	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pipeline Regulation
British Columbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Occupational Health and Safety Regulation: Sections 20 and 23
Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy Safety Canada Ground Disturbance and Damage Prevention A Program Development Guideline
Ovintiv	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ground Disturbance Orientation (in ISN)
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One-Call centers<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ US 811 811 in Your State◦ British Columbia 1-800-474-6886 BC One-Call◦ Alberta 1-800-242-3447 Alberta One-Call (Utility Safety)• 2023 Excavation Safety Guide & Directory• ANSI Z535.1 – Safety Color Code for Marking Physical Hazards• PHMSA NPMS Operator Standards Manual (Oct. 2017)• Common Ground Alliance (CGA):<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Best Practices, version 19.0◦ Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT)

6.0 Revision History

Rev #	Description of Change	Date	Sign Off	
			Owner	Reviewer
01	Document Creation	Apr. 12, 2019	Operational EH&S	Operational EH&S
02	Ethos Administrative Update: Ovintiv rebrand and SPEM content	Nov. 24, 2020	Operational EH&S	Operational EH&S
03	Update to align with Ground Disturbance Practice after Ethos committee review	June 26, 2023	Operational EH&S	Ethos alignment team

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Appendix A: Uniform Color Code for Marking Buried Facilities

Uniform Color Code for Marking Buried Facilities, American Public Works Association (APWA)

Limits of proposed excavation*	White
Temporary survey markings	Pink
Electrical power lines, cables, conduits, and ducts or lighting wires and cables	Red
Gas, oil, petroleum, steam, or gaseous material	Yellow
Telephone, communications, cable TV, alarm or signal lines, wires, cable conduits or ducts	Orange
Water lines or pipes (potable water)	Blue
Sanitary sewer, storm sewer, culvert or drain lines	Green
Irrigation, reclaimed water, slurry lines or pipes	Purple

*The person proposing the ground disturbance is encouraged to mark the limits of the search area on the ground with white stakes, flags or paint. In winter conditions, black may be used rather than white.