

**Eastern Virginia Underground Utility
Damage Prevention Committee
Area 3 Meeting
November 17, 2009**

Persons in Attendance:

**Michael Cook – Advanced Comm. USA
Jenny Kingsley – Dominion Va. Power
Dave Thompson – Henderson, Inc.
Frank Smith – Consolidated
Steven Knudeen – Cox Comm.
Bettie Cahoon – City of Chesapeake**

**Gene Midkiff – Cable Associates
Keith White – Cox Comm.
Roberta Dorman – Dominion
Stephen Thomas – SCC
Bud Swanson – Cox Comm.
Pat Cline – City of Newport News**

The Area 3 meeting of the Eastern Virginia Damage Prevention group was held on November 17, 2009, and was graciously hosted by Dominion Virginia power at their office in Gloucester.

Steven Thomas with the State Corporation Commission updated the group on the fifth edition of the marking standards. The booklets are available upon request.

The question of Fire Department responses/enforcement of gas damages was raised. There have been no citations issued that any one is aware of. The last update was that the Fire Marshall's group needed to develop uniform enforcement guidelines.

The water and sewer service marking issue is on-going. The work group will meet again on December 3 to hopefully come to an agreement on compromise language to help all parties. The focus is for each operator to mark at the end of their responsibility, even if it is at the main, to give direction as to the approximate location of the service for gas and power installations.

Question – are any plumbing groups involved in the discussions? Answer – no. Propane operators were discussed. They have participated in local meetings before, and some will mark private propane lines for the customer for a fee.

Ticket scope issues – a work group met to discuss over notification on tickets and unnecessary work for the locators. We will try to educate excavators and if that is not successful, there are already vehicles within the law that can lead to probable violation penalties.

Dave Thomson with Henderson, Inc. advised the group that Phase 3 testing is underway. They are currently checking encroachment – verifying GPS points as they relate to the ticket points in the excavation area. John Deere and GTI are working together on Phase 3. Equipment will be incorporated into the cab controls of the excavating/clearing equipment.

There is concern that the locating community is not using the gps equipment for capturing data while locating. Discussion ensued about the workings of the unit and the lack of correction ability of the locators should ticket information be entered in error.

The next meeting of the group will be held in January, 2010 in Area 1.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bettie Cahoon, Secretary